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ABSTRACT

This document is a compilation of materials for teaching about Australian involvement in the First World War, with a specific focus on the battle of Gallipoli (Turkey) in which several thousand Australian soldiers were killed. The materials include "The Gallipoli Diary of Archie Muir" and thirty photographs of Matthew Brown (Muir and Brown were Australian soldiers at Gallipoli). A teacher's guide that provides background information for students is included. (DB)

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Gallipoli: Personal Records of War

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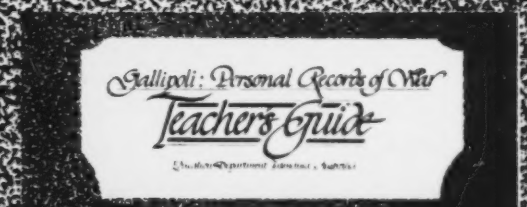

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CONTENTS:

The Gallipoli Diary of Archie Muir
The Photographs of Matthew Brown (30)
Teacher's Guide

Teachers are free to copy these materials for use with their students.

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Gallipoli: Personal Records of War

The Gallipoli Diary of Archie Muir

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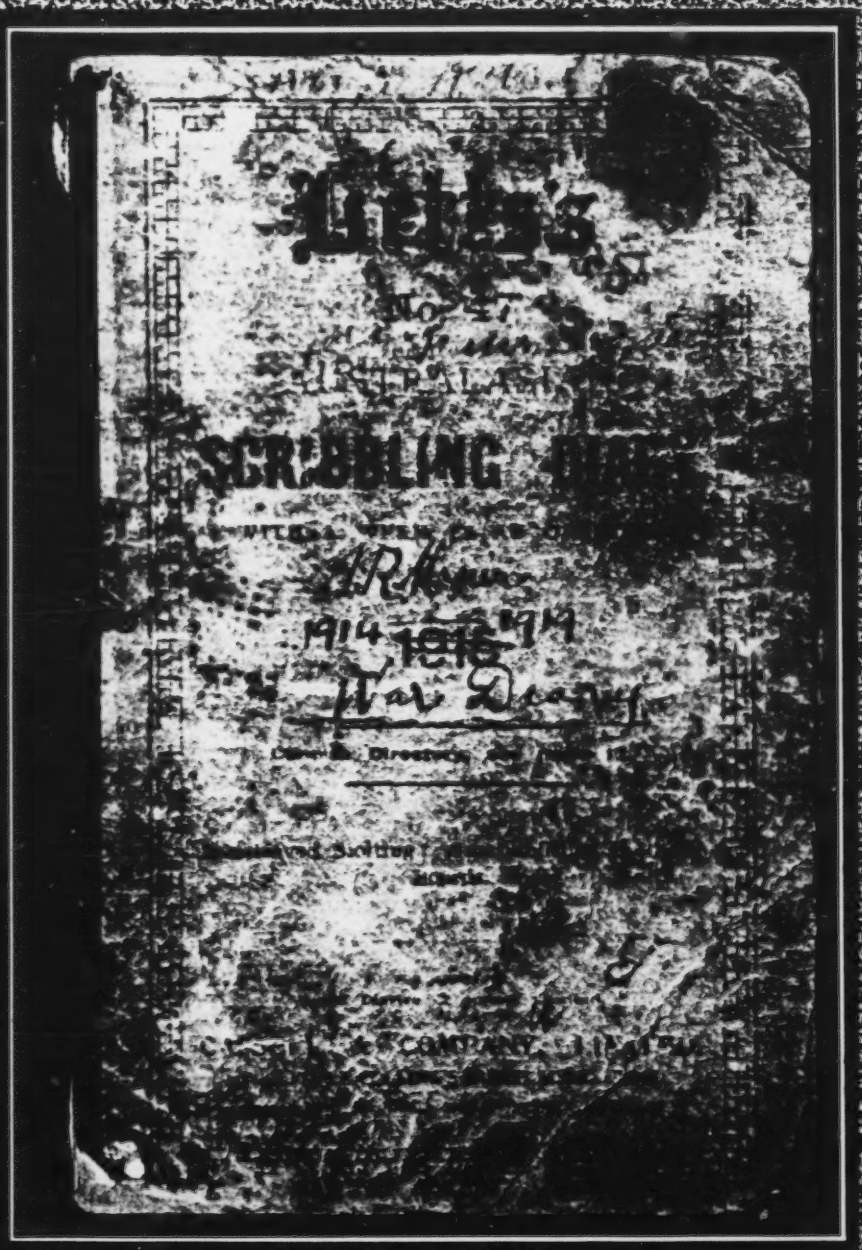

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Archie Muir

Archie Muir was born in Rosevears in 1889. His father was Scottish, a carriage builder by trade. His mother was one of the Plummers, an early pioneering family from the West Tamar at Rosevears. (All the Plummer family are buried at Windermere.) There wasn't much work for a carriage builder in Tasmania so the family went to Auckland, New Zealand. Archie's father died of pneumonia in Auckland and his mother then moved back to Rosevears with her family of three boys and a girl.

***Left:** Archie Muir*
Right: Archie's brother George (1917)

Archie was brought up by the Conroy family at Wynyard. He later worked there before going to Queenstown as an employee of the Mt Lyell Mining Company. He worked there until the outbreak of the First World War when he and his two brothers George and Cromwell enlisted for service.

Archie's main interest was in amateur photography. He had a few good cameras, one of which he took to war. Many excellent shots were taken during the war, and are stuck in his Gallipoli diary.

When Archie returned from war he settled in Hobart and married Myee Dutton. They had a son and a daughter who both died tragically at a young age. His son, Melville, who died of meningitis when he was 22 years old, was a very keen amateur photographer like his father. It is possible that they belonged to a camera club in Hobart but it is not known for sure. Archie's daughter died at about 19 years of age, cause unknown. Archie worked for the Commonwealth Public Service in Hobart. He died in 1973 at the age of 84.

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Brief acc. of [illegible] to after leaving Tasmania with the A.I.E.Force. Signaller Archie Rob[illegible] Weir

Memoranda of things lent, &c.

Date.	Articles lent.	Returned.

20/10/[illegible]

After nearly 10 weeks at the Concentration Camp at Pontville, Tas, we broke camp at 8-30 AM. on Tuesday the 20th day of October 1914 + entrained for Hobart where we boarded the H.M.T. Geelong (our transport) from the Ocean pier; at 3-30 PM. we slowly backed out from the pier + said farewell to our Garden Isle of the South + to the thousands of people on the pier. It was a glorious send-off + a sight one will never forget. As we slowly headed down the Harbour we received messages of Good-bye + Good Luck from the Signallers at Fort Nelson. We sailed straight out + made a bee line for Albany. we lost sight of Tassy before dark, after tea we were busy installing ourselves in our proper quarters + receiving Hammocks blankets ect, Sea's moderately Calm, 23rd) All at all affected with Sea sickness, although a few of the boys are very bad, I dont think we have a Chronic. 22nd) "Daily Routine." Arise at 6 AM (Reveille) Hammocks all taken down + rolled up + stowed away in Racks, first wash + get ready for Breakfast at 7 30, After breakfast all turn on deck except Mess Orderlies, who wash up sweep + wash the Troop Deck + get things ready for the Daily inspection at 11 AM., Parade from 10 AM. to 11. Dinner at 12 noon Parade from 2 PM. till 4 PM. tea at 5 PM. Swing Hammocks at 8-30 PM. Lights out at 9 PM.

We had an uneventfull trip to Albany. saw several whales; & Sighted land at daylight on the 26th + entered King Georges Sound at 8-30 AM. + anchored in the Oth harbor there were about 20 other Troopships + a few war ships at anchor when we arrived; Went into the inner harbour on Thurs 29th + got a good view of Albany which presented a very pretty sight that night most of the buildings being brightly illuminated, the Town Hall as a Station. Coaled + took in water + went out into Sound again, On Sat 31st I went ashore with a boat party had from 1 PM. till 6-30 PM. ashore

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Excitement of leaving.
Details of voyage out to Middle East.
Mention of Emden.

20/10/1914

After nearly 10 weeks at the Concentration Camp at Pontville, Tas, we broke Camp at 8-30 A.M. on Tuesday the 20th day of October 1914 and entrained for Hobart where we boarded the T.S.S. Geelong (our transport) from the Ocean pier; at 3-30 P.M. we slowly backed out from the pier and said farewell to our Garden Isle of the South and to the thousands of people on the pier.
It was a glorious send off and a sight one will never forget. As we slowly headed down the Harbour we received messages of Good-byes and Good Luck's from the Signaller at Fort Nelson, We sailed straight out and made a beeline for Albany. We lost sight of Tassy before dark, after tea we were busy installing ourselves in our proper quarters and receiving Hammock's blankets etc. Sea's moderately Calm.
21st) Not at all affected with Seasickness, although a good few of the boys are very bad. I don't think we have a Convoy.
22nd) "Daily Routine". Arise at 6 A.M. (Reveille) Hammocks all taken down and rolled up and stowed away in Racks, first wash and get ready for Breakfast at 7-30. After breakfast all hands on deck except Mess Orderlies, who wash up, sweep and wash the Troops Deck and get things ready for the Daily inspection at 11 A.M. Parade from 10 A.M. to 11. Dinner at 12 noon. Parade from 2 P.M. till 4 P.M. tea at 5 P.M. Swing Hammocks at 8-30 P.M. Lights out at 9 P.M.
We had an uneventfull trip to Albany, saw several whales; Sighted land at daylight on the 26th and entered King Georges Sound at 8-30 A.M. and anchored in the outer harbour there were about 20 other Troopships and a few warships at anchor when we arrived; Went into the inner harbour on Thurs 29th got a good view of Albany which presented a very pretty sight that night most of the buildings being brightly illuminated, the Town Hall as a Swan. Coaled and took in water and went out into Sound again. On Sat 31st I went ashore with a boat party had from 1 P.M. till 6-30 P.M. ashore.

early on the Sunday morning the 12th day of November (4th glorious morning) our 38 Troopships sleighed anchor & put out to sea & took up their position in the sailing formation of Ls Address, Quotations, and other matters of Interest.

Memoranda of Reference, &c.

A list of Troopships

(1) "Hymettus" (10) "Orvieto" (19) "Argyleshire"
(2) "Geelong" (11) "Ascanius" (20) "Hovatia"
(3) "Persia" (12) "Soldorak" (21) "Marere"
(4) "Omrah" (13) "Flatuna" (22) "Rangitira"
(5) Clan McGregor (14) "Euripedes" (23) "Suffolk"
(6) "Medic" (15) "Star of England" (24) "Malta"
(7) "Argyleshire" (16) " " "Victoria" (25) "Anglo Egyptian"
(8) "Shropshire" (17) "Port Lincoln" (26) "Almeda"
(9) "Karoo" (18) "Afric" (27) "Southern Islander"

New Zealanders

"Convoy"

"Rauganui" "Arawa" Cruiser Sydney
"Tahiti" "Athonic" " Melbourne
"Ruapehu" "Wimmera" " Minotaur
"Corinthic" "Hawkes Bay" " Psyche
"Limerick" " Japanese
"Star of India" " Plymouth

We soon lost sight of Australia, & headed a N. West course (direct for Colombo) nothing of importance happened excepting a couple of stormy days, till the 9th (H. Rosbery's Regatta day) when we were nearing the Cocos Islands, our Convoys received messages of distress from the Islands, the Cruiser Sydney immediately went in the direction & soon sighted the German Cruiser Emden, whom she engaged briskly, & in about an hour the German run the Emden ashore to save her sinking she had 3 funnels & her fore mast down & many holes below water lines. The rest of our voyage was uneventful we sighted "Ceylon" at daylight on the 15th (Sunday) sailed up the coast to Colombo anchored outside the City Harbour at about noon

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Early on the Sunday morning the first day of November 1914 (A glorious morning) our 38 troopships weighed anchor and put out to sea and took up their positions in the sailing formation of three abreast.

A list of Troopships

1. "Hymettus"	*10. "Orvieto"*	*19. "Argyleshire"*
2. "Geelong"	*11. "Ascanins"*	*20. "Horatio"*
3. "Pera"	*12. "Saldsrah"*	*21. "Marere"*
4. "Omrah"	*13. "Katuna"*	*22. "Rangitira"*
5. "Clan McCorqudale"	*14. "Euripedies"*	*23. "Suffolk"*
6. "Medic"	*15. "Star of England"*	*24. "Bemalta"*
7. "Wiltshire"	*16. "Star of Victoria"*	*25. "Anglo Egyptian"*
8. "Shropshire"	*17. "Port Lincholn"*	*26. "Armidale"*
9. "Karoo"	*18. "Afric"*	*27. "Southern"*

28. "Miltiades"

New Zealanders

"Manganui"		*"Convoys"*
"Tahiti"	*"Arawa"*	*Cruiser Sydney*
"Ruapehu"	*"Athonic"*	*" Melbourne*
"Croati"	*"Wimmance"*	*" Mamatoure*
"Timerick"	*"Hawkes Bay"*	*" Pysche*
"Star of India"		*" Japanese*
		" Plymouth

We soon lost sight of Australia, and headed a N.W. course (direct for Colombo) nothing of importance happening excepting a couple of stormy days, till the 9th Nov. (Rosevear's Regatta day) when we were nearing the Coco's Islands, our Convoy's received messages of distress from the Islands, the Cruiser Sydney immediately went in the direction and soon sighted the German cruiser Emden, whom she engaged briskly, and in about an hour the Germans ran the Emden ashore to save her sinking she had 3 funnel's and her foremast down and two holes below water line, the rest of our voyage was uneventful we sighted "Ceylon" at daylight on the 15th (Sunday) sailed up the coast to Colombo anchored outside the City Harbour at about noon.

1915 31 Days | 11 THURSDAY [70-295] | [11 to 14] March

4 DAYS in 21

"Greek" women - Folk at Lemnos "Island

12 FRIDAY [71-294] "Lemnos."

Still anchored at "Lemnos" The Harbor now presents a most striking contrast. to what it looked like when we arrived here eight days ago. instead of half a dozen ships. There are now some fifty. of all descriptions including some of Britain's most valuable & best Dreadnaughts. such as the Queen Elizabeth Lord Nelson "Agamemnon" ect. & dozens of cruisers. Submarines. Destroyers. Torpedo Boats There are some 25 or 30 Troop ships & Coal Boats. some very fine Liners. a couple of Cunard" Liners of 26000 Tons. & other boats from many different Coys. We have not had mail since we left Alexandria. But we believe there are to be some 50 or 70000 troops mobilized here before we attack Turkey We have almost daily Parades on shore, it is lovely to get on the Hills of beautiful

13 SATURDAY [72-293]

14 SUN—4 in Lent [73-292]

grass & clover the formation of the Country immediately around the Harbour. is very similar to parts around Auckland N.Z. I am feeling in great nick" & in good spirits & health.

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Lemnos: the staging point for the Gallipoli attack
the rumours of naval reverses
the spirited attitude of the troops

A.R. Muir

"Greek"
women
-folk
at Lemnos
Island

"Lemnos"

Still anchored at "Lemnos". The Harbor now
presents a most striking contrast to what
it looked like when we arrived here eight
days ago, instead of half a dozen ships, there
are now some fifty, of all descriptions
including some of Britain's most valuable
and best 'Dreadnoughts' such as the "Queen Elizabeth",
"Lord Nelson", "Agamemnon" etc. and dozens of various
Cruisers, Submarines, Destroyers, Torpedo Boats.
There are some 25 or 30 Troop ships and Coal Boats,
some very fine Liners including a couple of
"Cunnard" Liners of 26,000 Tons and other boats
from many different Coy's. We have not had
any news since we left Alexandria, But we
believe there are to be some 50 or 70,000 troops
mobilized here before we attack Turkey.
We have almost daily Parades on
shore, it's lovely to get on the Hills
of beautiful grass and clover
the formation of the Country immediately
around the Harbour is very similar to
parts around "Auckland" N.Z. I am
feeling in great nick and in good spirits and
health.

A.B.C. Muir. "Lemnos" Island

1915 31 Days | 18 THURSDAY [77-288] | March 13 Tk 1913 [19 to 21] March

8-30 P.M. Been having a good old Sing Song round the Mess table. Singing all the old favourite songs. A change in the weather. Did not go ashore today

19 FRIDAY [78-287]

Still at anchor at "Lemnos" last night was very stormy. & the weather is very wild today. on Signal duty on Bridge from 8 A.M. to 8 A.M. this morning. All sorts of rumors going round the Ship about serious reverses the British navy are having at the "Dardinelles" Have had no mail since about 20 Feb. anxiously awaiting the arrival of some from Egypt.

20 SATURDAY [79-286]

21 SUN – 5 in Lent [80-285]

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A.R. Muir. "Lemnos" Island
March 13th, 1915

8-30 P.M. Been having a good old Sing Song round the Mess table. Singing all the old favourite songs. A change in the weather. Did not go ashore today.

Still at anchor at "Lemnos" last night was very stormy and the weather is very wild today. on Signal duty on Bridge from 5 A.M. to 8 A.M. this morning. All sorts of rumors going round the Ship about serious reverses the British navy are having at the "Dardanelles". Have had no mail since about 20 Feb. anxiously awaiting the arrival of some from Egypt.

A D M Weir 29

1915 80 Days | 8 THURSDAY [98-267] | [8 to 11] April

"Lemnos" 9 A.M. Monday Morning
April 5th 1915

My dear darling Mother,

We are still on board the R.M.S. Devanha at Lemnos Island. this morning orders came out for us to get our Black Kit bags ready to be sent on to the Base ahead immediately. And from all accounts I believe we will

9 FRIDAY [99-266] Good Friday

most probably be going into Action before the end of this week Well we have waited a long time for it. but in the beginning we did not expect to take part in an invasion of Turkey. I shall have to put this Diary in my Black Kit bag & goodness knows when we will see those bags again. perhaps never. There are great possibilities before a chap going into action and I stand as good, perhaps a better chance of it being killed as the next one of our Bde. It is inevitable that a good few of us will be wiped out. and should I be one to go. Mother, do not

11 Low SUN—Fast Easter [101-264]

I've always been God fearing & as upright as a poor weak human being can be. And although I, like the rest of Humanity fall far

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Farewell letter to Mother
Preparation for battle - feelings, attitudes towards home, God, Empire

A.R. Muir
"Lemnos" 9 A.M. Monday Morning, April 5th 1915

My dear darling Mother,

We are still on board the R.M.S. Devanha at "Lemnos" Island, this morning orders came out for us to get our Black Kit bags ready to be sent on to the Base almost immediately. And from all accounts I believe we will most probably be going into Action before the end of this week. Well we have waited a long time for it, but in the beginning we did not expect to take part in an invasion of Turkey. I shall have to put this Diary in my Black Kit bag and goodness knows when we will see those bags again, perhaps never. There are great possibilities before a chap going into action and I stand as good, perhaps a better chance of being killed as the next one of our Brigade. It is inevitable that a good few of us will be wiped out, and should I be one to go, "Mother", Do not fret for me. I have always been God fearing and as upright as a poor weak Human being can be. And although I, like the rest of Humanity fall far

30
April [12 to 14] 12 MONDAY [102-263] 4th Month 1915

far short of the Glory of God"
Still we have good hopes & faith
for the Eternal Hereafter.
I am certainly not becoming
despondant or downhearted
quite on the contrary I am in
good health and in splendid
spirits and I really believe
in the bottom of my heart I
will be spared to return to you
& Mother darling. And I should
13 TUESDAY [103-262]
Easter Law Sittings Begin
be one more of the hundreds
of thousands of lives that have
and will be given in the Death
struggle that is going on
for the very existance of our
Empire, Well then its only
one more. And other children
you have to cheer & comfort you
in your old age.

Well I must go & pack my
14 WEDNESDAY [104-261]
● 11h 36m a.m. (Greenwich)
Bag
Good bye & God bless
you Mother darling
from your ever loving
Son. Archie. XXXX

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far short of the "Glory of God"
still I have good hopes and faith
for the Eternal Hereafter.
I am certainly not becoming
despondent or downhearted
quite on the contrary I am in
good health and in splendid
spirits and I really believe
in the bottom of my heart I
will be spared to return to you
Mother darling. And should
I be one more of the hundreds
of thousands of lives that, "have
and will be" given in the Death
struggle that is going on
for the very existence of our
Empire, Well then it's only
one more. And other children
you have to cheer and comfort you
in your old age.
Well I must go and pack my
Bag.
Good bye and God bless
you Mother darling
from your ever loving
Son Archie XXXXX

Wednesday April 7th 1915

After three days of very wet & stormy weather the surface of the Harbour is as smooth as a millpond. We have changed our anchorage closer to the Entrance & the first two of the 130 odd transports have arrived - with the 1st Lot of Australians on board - on Wednesday April 7th at 8 A.M.

"Peninsular" Campaign

[MONDAY [280-285]]

A brief account of our adventures in the middle of April 1915 written from memory at FLEUR BAIX "France" May 28th 1916.

We sailed into the Harbour at Lemnos Island on board the "Troop-ship Devanha" one glorious morning during the first few days of March. The first transport to arrive [17 SATURDAY [107-258]] there were only a few British Warships in the Harbour then "weather bound" from bombarding the Dardanelles Forts. Some several weeks after that on a glorious day (the 24th April) there were that many ships of all classes & sizes in Harbour that they had to be anchored two & three along side one another. As we progressed to the it was definitely known that we were to go to Gallipoli and speculation ran high as to the possibilities in

[18 SUN—2 wks Easter [108-257] Cambridge Easter Term begins]

A retrospective description of the Gallipoli Landing - April 25th 1915.
Mentions: the rumours prior to landing
the nervous anticipation aboard ship while approaching.

Wednesday, April 7th 1915

A Glorious morning after three days
of very wet and stormy weather, the
surface of the Harbour is as smooth as
a millpond. We have changed our anchorage
closer to the Entrance, and the first two of
the 130 odd transports have arrived with
one lot of Australians and one lot of Indians.
On Signal Watch 4 P.M. to 8 P.M. (A.R.M.)
"Peninsula Campaign"
A Brief account of our adventures
after the middle of April 1915
Written from memory at FLEUR BAIX
"France" May 28th 1916. A.R.M.

We sailed into the Harbour at
"Lemnos" Island on board the
Troopship "Devanha" one glorious
morning during the first few days
of March, 1915. The first troopship
to arrive there, for there were
only a few British Warships
there then "weather bound" from
Bombarding the Dardanelles Forts.
Some several weeks after that
on a glorious day (the 24th April)
there were that many ships of all
classes and sizes, in Harbour that
they had to be anchored
two and three alongside one another.
A week or so previous to this it
was definitely known that we were
to go to "Gallipoli" and speculation
ran high as to the possibilities in

front of us. We were told "this
that & "everything" but the truth.
Told we were due in "Constantinople"
a few weeks later; that the navy
had reduced every obstacle in the
way of Forts; etc; & that we would be
in for a marching invasion straight away.
Anyway we weighed anchor on
that beautiful 24th April, at 1 P.M.
& slowly made our way through a
regular Fleet of Ships, Transports &
War Ships, towards the entrance
of the Harbour. 20 TUESDAY [110-255]
So we passed by the Warships. Bugle
Salutes were given & answered.
cheering, etc. We slowly sailed out
& took up our position, with our escort
the Destroyer "Ribble" alongside &
headed a direct Easterly course. The
sea was moderately calm with a fair
breeze blowing so we had a good trip.
We still kept signal lights on the Bridge
but left it for good about dark that night.
we proceeded to 21 WEDNESDAY [111-254] our anchorage
under the shelter of one of the Islands
close to the Peninsula near Kaparelli about 9 P.M. when
there was a hot meal available on the
boat deck, but none seemed to have any
appetite, that was at all alarming.
At midnight we transhipped to the
Destroyer "Ribble," that is, those of the Bn.
who were left on the Devanha when we left
"Lemnos" for previous to that three of the
"Coys". had been transhipped to other
Troopships, & afterwards landed from
other Destroyers, etc. those who went
aboard the "Ribble, were one Coy of Infantry

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front of us. We were told "this"
"that" and "everything" but the truth.
Told we were due in "Constantinople"
a few weeks later, that the navy
had reduced every obstacle in the
way of Forts, etc. and that we would be
on a marching invasion straight away.
Anyway we weighed anchor on
that beautiful 24th April, at 1 P.M.
and slowly made our way through a
regular Fleet of Transports and
Warships towards the entrance
of the Harbour.
As we passed by the Warships, Bugle
Salutes were given and answered,
cheering, etc. We slowly sailed out
and took up our position with our escort
the Destroyer "Ribble" alongside and
headed a direct Easterly course, the
sea was moderately calm with a fair
breeze blowing so we had a good trip.
We still kept signal shifts on the Bridge
but left it for good about dark that night.
We proceeded to our anchorage
under the shelter of one of the Islands
close to the Peninsula, near "Kavalla" about 9 P.M. when
there was a hot meal available on the
boat deck but no one seemed to have any
appetite that was at all alarming.
At midnight we transhipped to the
Destroyer "Ribble", that is, those of the Battalion
who were left on the "Devanha" when we left
"Lemnos", for previous to that three of the
Comp'ys had been transhipped to other
Troopships and afterwards landed from
other Destroyers etc, those who went
aboard the "Ribble" were one Coy of Infantry,

1915 ~~21 Days~~ ~~28 THURSDAY [301-64]~~ ~~[301 to 64] October~~

SS. Simon and Jude

a lot of Army Medical people & all the Headquarters Details of the 29th. & eventual number was too many for the limited space on the Lestrygons. I happened to get down on the "Jack Tars" quarters with our Original Crowd, Bob Stephens. but we did not stop there long for all the Port holes were closed "of course" & the air was thick with a fog of tobacco smoke & neither of us being "smokers" we soon made our way on deck again & took up a position in the "P and S Stand" (the name given to ~~29 FRIDAY [302-63]~~ the Forward Gunstand) When all was settled we steamed away at a very slow rate. everything seemed as Silent as a Church Graveyard at midnight.
Not a sound from the engines & only the slightest ripple could be heard as the light little craft stole through the black & silent night & waters. We travelled "thus" for a few hours. Some slept others below smoked & played cards. I got very cold sitting still in the "P and S Stand" but the "Jack Tars" served us all with a hot drink of cocoa & there is ~~30 SATURDAY [303-62]~~ nothing like the "Navy" cocoa. & that drink was very acceptable. After a while I got that cold. that I climbed down & found my way down into the forward little "Stoke hole & Engineroom" where it was rather too warm, stayed there talking to the "Tars" for about an hour. then went back to "Bob Stephens" in the P and S Stand. Shortly after this orders ~~31 SUNDAY Greenwich Time [304-61]~~ came round to get our equipment on & get ready to disembark (4h 40m A.M. (Greenwich)) we got on our "Pack horse" loads & stood by ready. One of the "Tars" began to heave the lead for depths for by this time we could make out black highlands showing up against the less black Skys.

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a lot of Army Medical people and all the Head Quarter's
Details of the Battalion and even that number was
too many for the limited space on the
Destroyer. I happened to get down in the
"Jack Tar's" quarters with our Signal
Corporal, "Bob Stephens", but we did not stop
there long for all the Portholes were
closed "of course" and the air was thick with
a fog of tobacco smoke and neither of us being
"Smoker's" we soon made our way on deck
again and took up a position in the "Band Stand"
(the name given to the Forward Gunstand).
When all was settled we steamed away at
a very slow rate, everything seemed as Silent
as a Church Graveyard at midnight.
Not a sound from the engines and only the slightest
ripple could be heard as the light little craft
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cocoa and there is nothing like the
"Navy" cocoa and that drink was very acceptable.
After a while I got that cold that I climbed
down and found my way down into the pokey
little Stokehole and Engineroom, where it was
rather too warm, stayed there talking to the
Tars for about half an hour, then went back to
"Bob Stephens" in the Band Stand. Shortly
after this orders came round to
get our equipment on and get ready to disembark.
So we got on our "Pack-horse" loads and stood by ready.
One of the "Tars" began to heave the lead for the depths
for by this time we could make out black highlands
showing up against the less black Sky,

~~November [illegible]~~ | MONDAY [illegible] | ~~[illegible]~~ 1915

All Saints' Day.
Stock Exchange

but we could not judge the distance at all
several of the "Levs" Life boats were
alongside, from out of which we were to land
a "pinnace" from one of the Warships was also
in attendance to tow the echelons of boats
ashore. The man heaving the lead began to
get bottom. And a few minutes after this the
"pinnace" steamed off with the first echelon.
There was still no sign of "dawn" coming on the scene.
We of the second echelon had to stand on the deck
of the "Destroyer" until the "pinnace" returned with
the life-boats. Just as the first echelon reached
the beach, the enemy 2 TUESDAY [illegible] opened fire & in a
few minutes there were thousands of bullets
flying from all quarters of the "Highlands"
and from the beach level two or three tiers
clear from various elevations between the beach
& the high "Skyline". The Machine-guns rattled
away, & our Destroyers which could be seen
easily, was prepared long before the "pinnace"
got back, & a lot of our boys were killed & wounded
before we attempted to get in to the "Life boats".
"Dawn" came with alarming quickness, and we
went ashore in the 3 WEDNESDAY [illegible] 2nd echelon with
the first streaks of daylight coming over the
Cliffs. The pinnace towed us in as far as she
could without grounding herself & then cast off.
We had to row the rest of the way to the beach.
We had difficulty in beaching our boat through
one of the rowers being shot, also a naval
man at the Tiller, we bumped a rock or some
thing & everybody was trying to get out at
the bow. I was sitting by the Tiller, the water
around me by this time was fairly bubbling
with the countless bullets striking it.
I glanced over the side & it was just light enough
to see the bottom through the clear water. I judged

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

but we could not judge the distance at all.
Several of the "Devanha's" Life boats were
alongside from out of which we were to land.
A "Pinnace" from one of the Warships was also
in attendance to tow the echelons of L-boats
ashore. The man heaving the lead began to
get bottom. And a few minutes after this the
"Pinnace" steamed off with the first echelon.
There was still no sign of "dawn" coming on the scene.
We of the second echelon had to stand on the deck
of the "Destroyer" until the "Pinnace" returned with
the Life-boats. Just as the first echelon reached
the beach, the enemy opened fire and in a
few minutes there were thousands of bullets
flying from all quarters of the "Highlands"
and from the beach level too for a start
also from various "elevations" between the beach
and the high "Skylines". The Machine-guns rattled
away and our Destroyer which could be seen
easily, was peppered long before the "Pinnace"
got back and a lot of our boys were killed and wounded
before we attempted to get into the "Death boats".
"Dawn" came with alarming quickness and we
went ashore in the 2nd echelon with
the first streaks of daylight coming over the
Cliffs. The Pinnace towed us in as far as she
could without grounding herself and then cast off.
We had to row the rest of the way to the beach and
We had difficulty in beaching "our" boat through
one of the rowers being shot, also a naval
man at the "Tiller", we bumped a rock or some-
thing and everybody was trying to get out at
the bow. I was sitting by the "tiller", the water
around us by this time was fairly bubbling
with the countless bullets striking it.
I glanced over the side and it was just light enough
to see the bottom through the clear water. I judged

~~1915 xxxx~~ ~~THURSDAY [xxx-xx]~~ ~~[illegible]~~

the depth about up to my middle so over I went head & all & "incidentally" up to my neck without touching bottom. I pulled myself along towards the bow as well as I could with the one hand & let go & got a footing on "Jarkey in 6 ropes" supported by water up to my armpits (Christ) I half swam & half walked to the water's edge where I collapsed with the sudden extra weight of the (water-logged pack horse load). We scrambled over the 20 odd paces of stony beach to the low bank running parallel with the beach & there we laid flat out with our feet towards the sea ~~FRIDAY [xxx-xx]~~ The Machine Guns (Gunpowder Plot) were "enfilading" us from the Left & the continued swish of the stream of bullets which passed only a few inches over our backs, lasted for quite a few minutes which of course seemed like an eternity, but the firing was very erratic & scarcely anyone was hit by that particular fire. By this time the boys of the 1st "echelon" were well up the first "Cliff" & the Turks were beginning to ~~xxx~~ consequently our (Baptism) fire ceased off & we were able to rush across the flat ~~SATURDAY [xx-xx]~~ piece of ground between the beach & the "Cliff". Where we started to climb a very steep "Cliff" since named "Gripper Gully" situated a bit to the left of Walker's Ridge (on which marker the first wheels stumped into the water up to my neck)

[redacted]

aft Trin (311-54)
.M. (Greenwich)

Beach we landed on. Steep Life boats on beach. Looking North (Gaba Tepe)

Part of Walkers Ridge up to skyline of Gully (Gripper) where we

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the depth about up to my middle, so over
I went, load and all and "incidentally" up to my neck
without touching bottom. I pulled myself
along towards the bow as well as I could
with one hand and let go and got a footing on
"Turkey-in-Europe" supported by water up to my armpits.
I half swam and half walked to the waters edge
where I collapsed with the sudden extra
weight of the (water-logged) packhorse load.
We scrambled over the 20 odd pace's of stony
beach to the low bank running parallel with
the beach and there we laid flat out with our feet
towards the sea. The Machine Guns
were "enfilading" us from the Left and the continual
swish of the stream of bullets which passed only a
few inches over our backs, lasted for quite
a few minutes which of course seemed like an
eternity, but the firing was very erratic and
scarcely anyone was hit by that particular
fire. By this time the boys of the 1st "echelon"
were well up the first Cliffs and the Turks were
beginning to run, consequently our (Baptism)
fire eased off and we were able to rush
across the flat piece of ground
between the beach and the Cliffs, Where we
started to climb a very steep "Cliff" since
named "Sniper's (The Spinx) Lookout" situated a bit to
the left of "Walker's Ridge". (x on snap marks the spot where I
(jumped into the water up to my neck.)
A.R.M.

"Beach" we landed on. Sunken
Life boats on beach. Looking North towards
Suvla Bay.

Part of Walker's Ridge in the
vicinity of "Sniper's Lookout" which we
crossed at daylight 25th April 1915.

~~November [1 to 10]~~ ~~8 MONDAY [312-53]~~ ~~11th Month 1915~~

After about 20 minutes climbing we reached ~~the~~ a position North East of the top of "Walkers Ridge" at the head of the more gradual slopes which lead down up to "Hill 971". The first sight to meet our eyes at this spot, was our "Colonel (Clarke)" lying stone dead with a single bullet through his heart. His death must have been instantaneous for in his hands were still gripped a message form & pencil as in the act of writing. Close by was a man with his head smashed in by "Shrapnel" & nearby a "Turk" with a bayonet through in his side. On up the gentle slope towards 971 were ~~9 TUESDAY [313-52]~~ just a mere handful of us. Capt. Lawlie (West Aust.) Capt. Bargett (Lieutenant & the scout officer Lieut. Patterson, that's all the officers of our Bn I remember with us. & the mere handful of 12th & mixtures of other Bn's. And there we were going towards one of the main "objectives" of the landing" (Hill 971) The bulk of the Division was fighting facing South while we were facing East straight across the "Peninsula". We had a good view of the whole battlefield ~~10 WEDNESDAY [314-51]~~ and incidentally got ordinary fire from the East & "enfiladed" from the South. (Of course the Turks could not see any fun in us obtaining a footing on "971" & they came around from the back of that hill & overwhelmed us with ten perhaps 20 men to our one. and as fast as our scanty lot of reinforcements arrived immediately after "disembarkation" (New Zealanders) / as fast did the continual stream of wounded leave for the beach, that is those who were lucky enough to be able to hop, tumble, crawl, or walk, themselves back. for there must have been a lot of

Mohammedan Year 1334 begins.
King Edward VII. born, 1841

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After about 20 minutes climbing we reached a position North East of the top of Walker's Ridge at the foot of the more gradual slopes which lead on up to (Hill 971). The first sight to meet our eyes at this spot, was our "Colonel" (Clarke) lying stone dead with a sniper's bullet through his heart. his death must have been instantaneous for in his hands were still gripped a message form and pencil as in the act of writing. Close by was a man with his head smashed in by "Shrapnel" and nearby a "Turk" with a bayonet thrust in his side. On up the gentle slopes towards 971 we went. Just a mere handful of us. Capt. Lawler (West Aust.) Capt. Margetts (then Lieut.) and the scout officer Lieut. Patterson, that's all the officers of our Battalion I remember with us and a mere handful of 12th and mixtures of other Battalions. And there we were going towards one of the main "objectives" of the landing (Baby 700 and Hill 971). The bulk of the Division was fighting facing South while we were facing East straight across the "Peninsula". We had a good view of the "whole" battlefield and incidentally got ordinary fire from the East and "enfiladed" from the South. Of course the Turks could not see any fun in us obtaining a footing on "971" so they came around from the back of that hill and overwhelmed us with ten perhaps 20 men to our one and as fast as our "scanty" lot of reinforcements arrived immediately after "disembarkation" (New Zealanders) Just as fast did the continual stream of wounded leave for the beach, that is those who were lucky enough to be able to hop, tumble, crawl, or walk themselves back, for there must have been a lot of

~~1915 30 Oct.~~ ~~19 THURSDAY [303-62]~~ ~~[1 Nov.] November~~

wounded who could not dress themselves & although the R.A.M.C. Stretcher bearers did magnificent work. they could not deal with all of the cases. From our elevated position (Balcony) we could see that our boys were outnumbered everywhere & gradually being pushed back. I thought towards the close of the day that we would all be in the Sea by dark. but our boys came back to the last line of ridges immediately in front of the Sea - but not another inch would they budge. for they realized that it meant that there for be forced into the Sea. And never during the whole ~~18 FRIDAY [303-63]~~ of the campaign did the enemy ever get past those 4 ridges. We clearly held during the first terrible week firing ditches were thrown up all along these ridges "under fire" they were only knee deep with no communication trenches to the protection behind the cliffs and never a moment to improve them during the first week for the work was for ever day & night trying to break through our "unconsolidated" Lines. It was an awful week and I should ~~20 SATURDAY [304-61]~~ ultimately survive this to the end of the War & live to an old age. the memories of that first week on the "Peninsula" will always be most vivid. I was separated from the section during the landing day & next morning at 3 we were a flanking party protecting the 3rd Div. before we took up position in the evening of what was afterwards ~~21 SUN 25 aft 1 pm [305-60]~~ named Quinn's Post & the Hill. Our Co, being on the right of those positions. there was about 3 Co's of the 1st Bn left then. we were supporting the firing ditches along a ridge we then called Suicide Ridge. At daylight on the Tues. morning

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wounded who could not help themselves
and although the A.M.C. (Ambulance Corps) and stretcher bearers did
magnificent work they could not deal
with a quarter of the cases. From our elevated
position (Baby 700) we could see that our boys were
outnumbered everywhere and gradually being
pushed back. I thought towards the close
of the day that we would all be in the Sea
by dark but our boys came back to the
last line of ridges immediately in from the
Sea but not another inch did they budge
for they realized that it meant stay there
or be forced into the Sea. And never
during the whole of the campaign
did the enemy ever get past those "Ridges" so
"dearly" held during the first terrible week.
Firing ditches were thrown up all along
these ridges "under fire", they were only
knee deep with no communication trenches
to the protection behind the cliffs and
never a moment to improve them during
the first week for the Turk was for ever
day and night trying to break through our
"unconsolidated" Lines. It was an awful week
and should I ultimately survive
to the end of the War and live to an old
age the memories of that first week on the
"Peninsula" will "always" be most vivid.
I was separated from my Section during the
Landing day and next morning there was a
partial reorganization of the 3rd Brigade, before
we took up a position in the vicinity of what
was afterwards named "Quinn's
Post" and "Pope's Hill", Our Battalion being on the right
of those positions. there was about 50%
of the Battalion left then. We were supporting the
Firing ditches along a ridge we "then" called
"Suicide Ridge". At daylight on the Tues. morning

~~November [illegible]~~ ~~22 MONDAY [020-39]~~ ~~[illegible] 1915~~

the Turks made a desperate attempt to get through where we were supporting them. They were supported by Machine Guns that swept the ridge we were behind. Our acting Bn. C.O. Capt (Maj.) Smith ordered us up into the firing ditches. our Sig. Corpl Bob, Stephens & I were standing just under the edge of the Cliff near Maj Smith. So when the order was given for all hands to man the firing line Bob & I jumped on top of the ridge (which was incidentally a Skyline for the enemy) & rushed over to the ditches which were only a dozen or so paces beyond the edge of the ridge. These ~~22 TUESDAY [021-38]~~ ditches were seperated, in places along the line by yds in some cases. We had a job to get into one at all for they did not hold many and were full. but as we were on the Skyline it did not take us long to make room in a sector of ditch between two "Machine Guns" one of them belonging to our Bn. & the fact that these two guns were there made that particular stretch very warm indeed By this time the attack was beaten off & when things quietened ~~22 WEDNESDAY [022-37]~~ down a bit we left two lads (who had helped to dig the ditches on the Sunday 25th & had been in them all the time) & went to a long shallow Dugout between the firing ditches & the ridge of the Cliff. where they could at least lay down. a thing you could not do in the firing ditches. Bob & I stayed there for 5 6 hours, during which time Bob did excellent work in taking command of the sector for when we got there there was not an officer or N.C.O. there & the only officers in the vicinity at all were Captain Everett & Lieut Selby one on the Right & one on the left. between whom we kept up a

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supported by Machine Guns that swept the
ridge we were behind. Our acting Bn. C.O. (Battalion Commanding Officer)
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ditches. our "Sig." Corp'l "Bob Stephens" and I were
standing just under the edge of the Cliff
near Maj. Smith so when the order was
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was "incidentally" a Skyline for the enemy)
and rushed over to the ditches which were
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the ridge. These ditches were
separated in places along the line "by yards
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one at all for they did not hold many and
were full, but as we were on the Skyline
it did not take us long to "make" room in a
sector of ditch between two "Machine Guns"
one of them belonging to our Battalion and the fact
that those two guns were there made
that particular stretch very warm indeed.
By this time the attack was beaten off and when
things quietened down a bit we
let two lads (who had helped to dig the Ditches on
the Sunday, 25th, and had been in them all the time) go out
to a long shallow Dugout between the firing
ditches and the ridge of the Cliff where they
could at least lay down, a thing you could
not do in the firing ditches. Bob and I stayed
there for 56 hours, during which time
Bob did excellent work in taking command
of the sector for when we got there there
was not an officer or N.C.O. there and the only
officers in the vicinity at all were Captain
Everett and Lieut. Selby, one on the Right and one on
the left between whom we kept up a

~~Dr.~~ JUNE, ~~Cash Account~~ ~~Cr.~~

continual "communication" by means of notes stuck in empty cartridge cases and passed along from one to the other. It was the only way to beat the stream of "false" messages, that were continually being passed along the line by word of mouth. Such as. "Fix bayonets & charge" (when it was mad to think of a charge) & again when the Turkes were trying to get up to our lines ~~the~~ orders would come along ~~the~~ ("Pass it along. ~~the~~ "Cease fire" You are firing on your own Troops Indians). Another very amusing one I remember. ("After dark tonight the Australians must not fire a shot as the French are about to surround the enemy.") Well we had been told such a little about what was going to happen that we were inclined to believe & "hope" it was so. But on investigation it was found no such order had been authorised so we kept up an extra amount of fire that night. When we had had about 36 hours we changed (Bobs) the two lads who we had sent out for a rest places again & we had a rest but things got very lively towards the end of the week & the dead & wounded were numerous & reinforcements scarce ~~although~~ so we had to go back on the Friday morning during our absence a couple of N.C.O's belonging to our Bn (Corpl Craig & Sergt Hay Seaton) had drifted into our sector of trench so "Bob" was relieved of his taking charge. Friday & Sat were very hectic times. but towards the end of Saturday things became very quiet. We were relieved by a party from the 4th Bde. & had marched ~~before~~ before we were relieved Bob Stephen was shot through the brain & died without speaking

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

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On the Battlefield. 47

1915 ~~[illegible]~~ 20 THURSDAY [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ May

three miles North East
of Albert. Friday evening
July 21st 1916

I had stowed this Diary
away in our Original goods
packnie, & I did not expect to
see it again for a long time
perhaps never again.
but our passports have caught
us up here ~~[illegible]~~ so I grabbed
the opportunity of writing a
few more notes before we enter
upon the big adventure we are
ready for, which (ito the landing
at the Peninsula has been delayed
somewhat.

Let me describe a little of
what I have seen the last two
days. At ~~dinner~~ time yesterday
~~21 SATURDAY [147-218]~~ 9h 50m A.M. (Greenwich).
Oxford Trinity Term begins
instead just before dinner
Our Signal Officer "Lieut Burkell"
told me to get ready to go with
him somewhere on the battlefield
so I packed my things as quickly as
possible, equipment, Rifle, large & small
Respirator, Binoculars, Glovecoat &
Waterproof, ~~23 WHIT SUN [illegible]~~ Kodak Week
we got on the bikes. and pushed
straight away from our billets in
(Albert) up a fairly steep incline
for about a mile. down another

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

A retrospective description of Muir's time prior to the battle at Poziers in the Somme Campaign 1916. Description of trenches and artillery duels.

On the Battlefield
three miles North East
of Albert. Friday evening
July 21st 1916.

I had stowed this Diary
away in our Signal goods
pannier, and I did not expect to
see it again for a long time
perhaps never again ~~
but our panniers have caught
us up here so I grabbed
the opportunity of writing a
few more notes before we enter
upon the big adventure we are
ready for, which like the landing
at the Peninsula has been delayed
somewhat.
Let me describe a little of
what I have seen the last two
days. At dinner time yesterday
in fact just before dinner,
Our Signal officer "Lieut. Thirkell"
told me to get ready to go with
him somewhere on the battlefield.
So I packed my things as quickly as
possible/equipment: Rifle, large and small
Respirators, Binoculars, Overcoat and
Waterproof, "Dixy" etc, etc.
We got on the bikes and pushed
straight away from our billets (in
Albert) up a fairly steep incline
for about a mile, down another

~~Bank Holidays (Empire Day)~~

~~A~~ valley where we entered the first bit of captured ground here we had to leave the bikes and enter earthworks which the germans have spent months & months on. We got lost in a labyrinth of trenches etc. but after a long time & trouble discovered one of our objectives, where we ~~got some refreshment~~ & proceeded the investigate the best route to get the Battalion to a certain point, who were leaving a few hours after us. We had a lovely afternoon under ~~fire~~ all the time had some narrow escapes. but finished our investigations & returned here to where I am writing at present our Brigade Head Qrs. (Advanced posn) where we found the operation had been altered ~~somewhat~~

~~25 WEDNESDAY [146-219]~~ ~~Queen Mary born, 1867.~~ ~~Easter Day~~

& our Bn has been in this position since but we move. to enter upon (I do not know what for certain) but I have an idea it is to capture this village (POZIERES) which has been hanging them up all day. and we expect to move any hour as I must get this diary back in the Original Granaries before I go. I would like to describe what this battle field has been like today. but I have not got time, only a word or two

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37

valley where we entered
the first bit of captured ground,
here we had to leave the bikes
and enter earthworks which the
germans have spent months and
months on. We got lost in a
Labyrinth of trenches etc. but
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one of our objectives, where we
got some instructions and proceeded
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get the Battalion to a certain point,
who were leaving a few hours after
us. We had a lively afternoon
under Artillery fire all the time, had
some narrow escapes, but finished
our investigations and returned here
to where I am writing at present,
our Brigade Head Quarters (Advanced position),
where we found the operation had
been altered somewhat. So our Battalion
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but we move to enter upon (I do not
know what for certain) but I have
an idea it's to capture this village
(POZIERS) which has been hanging
them up so and we expect to move
any hour so I must get this diary
back in the Signal pannier
before I go. I would like to
describe what this battlefield
has been like today but I have
not got time, only a word or two

[illegible] heard before we are due to leave any moment.
Today after "dinner" (I beg pardon) after bully beef & biscuits, I drew away for some signal apparatus we noticed yesterday someone had discarded in a battle. I had a mate with me & one of our Section & we went on to the skyline (from here) about a mile distance forward.
From where 1 June TUESDAY [152-213] Trinity Law Sittings begin we could get a magnificent view of the front battle fields for a semi-circle of 20 miles. & the sight was wonderful. All day long our Artillery of all calibres has been bombarding with out a minutes stop. & to watch the effect of hundreds & thousands of shells of all classes & calebres bursting all along the 2 WEDNESDAY [153-212] defences was indeed wonderful. The enemy has been replying very fiercely & recognises that we are after this strong portion of his line. But at present we are hurling 20 or 30 projectiles to his one. Unless you actually saw things as they are just here, every square yard for miles around, is torn up with shell holes of all sizes, up to big enough to hide a horse & waggon. You would never believe it possible that such devastation could be caused by man

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

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leave any moment.
Today after "dinner" (I beg pardon)
after bully beef and biscuits, I went
away for some signal apparatus
we noticed yesterday someone
had discarded in a battle. I
had a mate with me, DON, one of our "Section"
and we went on to the Skyline, (from here)
about a mile distance forward
from where we could
get a magnificent view of the
front battlefields for a semi
circle of 20 miles and the sight was
wonderful. All day long our
Artillery of all calibres has
been bombarding without a minutes
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hundreds of thousands of shells
of all classes and calibres bursting
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You would never believe it possible
that such devastation could be caused by man.

~~1915~~ 3 THURSDAY [151-214] ~~June~~

~~King George V. born, 1865~~
Corpus Christi

8 P.M. Friday July 21st 1916.

My dear darling Mother, Sister & Brothers.

Once before I took a pencil & wrote a hasty good-bye in this book. That was before I went into battle for the first time. It was a terrible Battle that landing at Gallipoli but I believe we are on the eve of launching out on an adventure which will prove almost as bad. I never expected to survive that adventure & when I consider the chances against us I hardly expect to survive this & the other adventures which must inevitably follow this one.

~~4 FRIDAY [155-210]~~ ~~5h 22m eve. (Greenwich)~~

Well Mother ~~5 SATURDAY [156-209]~~ darling if I do go down this time I want you to know that I am entering upon this adventure without the slightest nervousness. I really feel a strange eagerness & longing to get into the business & have done with it for a time. Now I must get some ~~6 SUN 1 after Trin [157-208]~~ sleep so in case I do not survive it all.

Good-bye Mother, Sister & brothers. God bless you and grant that our dear country shall never know the same things that I & others in France have. Love + x x x x x x x x + Mother

A letter home, written before the battle of Poziers. The attitude and spirit of Archie Muir.

A.R. Muir

8 P.M. Friday July 21st 1916.

My dear darling Mother,
Sister and Brothers

Once before I took a pencil
and wrote a hasty goodbye in
this book. That was before I
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Baptism that landing at Gallipoli
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Well Mother darling if
I do go down this time I want
you to know that I am entering
upon this adventure without the
slightest nervousness. I really feel
a strange eagerness and longing to
get into the business and have done
with it for a time. Now I must
get some sleep, so in
case I do not survive it all
Goodbye Mother, Sister and brothers.
God bless you and grant that our dear
country shall never know the same things
that Northern France has. Love xxxxxxxxxxxxxArchie

2nd "F" Field Ambulance 3rd Brigade "Hospt."

"Etaples" France July 25th "1916"

I arrived here in this Hospital from the firing Line at "Pozieres" during the early hours of last Monday morning the 24th July 1916) where I was put out of action some hours previous by being present at a spot where a dozen or more 5.9's inch high explosives arrived in a very few minutes.

The last time I wrote in this book was the night before we went into Action or at least before we started on the contract of "getting the "Hun" out of the stronghold of "Pozieres". We were ready standing by for order to move up all the morning of the 22nd & about 8 P.M. that evening. While it was still broad daylight. Our Sect. started for the front Line some three miles distant, we went in two lots. Myself and 7 others first & we had a most exciting trip for the evening was concentrating his Artillery fire all over the only approach we had up an open Ravine. it was about two miles up this ravine after we got out of a Sunken Road which was receiving its full share of the shells that were falling everywhere.

43

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"St. John's Ambulance Brigade" Hospital
"Etaples" France, July 28th 1916

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the early hours of last Monday morning
the 24th July 1916) where I was put out of
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an open Ravine. It was about
two miles up this ravine, after
we got out of a Sunken Road,
which was receiving its full
share of the shells that were falling
everywhere.

We very luckily arrived at our destination without any of us getting hit. We went into occupation of an old German French with old Gun Pits in it at intervals along the trench. We were within a few hundred yds of "Pozieres". We fixed up a Signal Station in one of these old Gun Pits and kept up communication with our Brigade Head Qrs by "Visual" Signalling (Lucas Lamps) and communication with our Companies by "Runners". "Cable" for telephones were absolutely out of the question for they were chopped to pieces as soon as they were laid the Artillery fire was so terrific.

Operations from our Sector went this way. Our Artillery which had been bombarding without a stop for 48 hours lifted their barrage fire off our first Objective & part of the eleventh Bn. (our 3rd Bde) went over & took the first objective about midnight. The Artillery lifted the barrage again off the 2nd objective & the rest of the 11th Bn. went over & took the 2nd objective & started to dig in along the Railway line. The Artillery lifted again & our Bn. the 12th went straight through & into the village & they got into parts of it & started

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through and into the village.
They got into parts of it and started

to Consolidate the position. but just before dawn the Huns delivered a terrific Counter attack which lasted on & off all the morning & I think our boys were blown out of the Village again. but retook it again later. All night & morning we were under a terrific bombardment & were exceptionally lucky until just after midday. I had been on our Visual Station to ~~15 TUESDAY [180-181]~~ B do. from 8 AM. to noon as well as being on & off all night, & I had just been having some of my emergency rations, & had just passed through the next old Gun position along the trench which was being used for a Army Medical dressing Station for both our Bn & the 11th. I had passed through this dressing Station on my way to another position ~~16 WEDNESDAY [197-198]~~ when No. 1 of a series of 5.9s with high explosives arrived & blew in the trench right in front of me. A shower of earth falling all around me. I turned back to our own Signal position & stopped [redacted] in the Dressing Station. And at that moment No. 2 or 3 or 4 I judge which landed right in the dressing Station. All I knew was a terrific crash a cloud of earth & Debris that

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that moment No. 2 or 3 or 4, I forget
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All I knew was a terrific crash;
a cloud of earth and Debris that

2nd August 1916 A TRUE rec'd 49

~~1915 copy~~ ~~12 THURSDAY [169-197]~~ ~~[illegible]~~

Royal Sussex County Hospital. Brighton England

a few minutes before was part of the top of the old Gun pit. The explosion & pieces of shell killed and wounded several all round me including the two Doctors, who were doing such magnificent work amongst the wounded, two or three lads who were already badly wounded & lying on stretchers in the Dressing Station were killed. I was thrown ~~13 FRIDAY [169-196]~~ violently off my feet on to my hands & face. and received part of the upheaval of debris ~~which~~ full in the face. But by some Miraculous happening, it contained no pieces of shell, excepting a few very fine splinters, which hit me on the face but only made mere scratches. My eyes seemed to have been filled with dirt & acid & I could not see for a white ~~13 SATURDAY [170-195]~~ mist that came before my eyes every time I opened them & they smarted something terrible. I crawled along the trench a little way & incidentally almost got in the road of four more of the "upheaval" "producers" after the bombs had stopped. I went back ~~20 SUN [illegible]~~ 3.45 p.m. (Greenwich) to our Signal position & found a shell had dropped right in the position & killed two of our Signallers. they told me it was Conway & Grubb. both Teamanmen

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2nd August 1916
"Royal Sussex" County Hospital, Brighton, England

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Conway and Grubb, both Tasmanians.

"Nominal Roll" (Date of Attestation) July 14th 1916

No.	Rank	Name	Age	Religion	Date of Attestation	Next of Kin
	Lieut.	Thirkell wounded Zonnebeke			4/7	Mr. R. Thirkell father 120 Elgin Street Launceston Tasmania
17	Sergt.	Mitchell, Bernard Wilson.	23	Meth.	19/8/1914	Mrs. M.C. Mitchell mother 2 Leighton Terrace Launceston
970	Corpl.	Stephens, William wounded Zonnebeke	23	C. of E.	10/9/1914	Mrs. E. Stephens mother Victoria
522	L/Cpl.	Holtum, Henry Edward,	21	R.C.	1/9/1914	Mrs. M. Holtum mother Tollard Jeeban Tasmania
256	L/Cpl.	Kerr, Richie, Robert, wounded Zonnebeke	27	C. of E.	26/8/1914	Mrs. R. Kerr mother Rossarden Tasmania
1643	L/Cpl.	Lee, Roy Stewart.	19	Meth.	17/12/14	Mrs. W. Lee mother Commercial Road Forest Table Land Tasmania
1584	L/Cpl.	Scott, James Kenneth	27	C. of E.	8/1/15	Mrs. J. Scott mother Lansdowne Deloraine Tas.
1944	Pte.	Chambers, John Arthur. wounded Zonnebeke	20	Meth.	12/1/15	Rev. W. J. Chambers Methodist Manse Deloraine Tas.
584	"	Hartley, Wilfred Percy. wounded Zonnebeke	20	Congl.	7/9/14	Mrs. M. J. Ellis Mother Rosemeter Mt. Roland Tasmania C/- Rural Exchange
2029	"	Holtum, Cyril Robert	26	R.C.	9/2/15	Mrs. M. Holtum Wife 41 Hampden Rd. Battery Point Hobart Tasmania
2670	"	Briggs, Roy Frederick	19	Meth.	29/5/15	Mrs. F. Briggs Father Longford Tasmania
2611	"	Conway, William John	27	C. of E.	10/6/15	Mrs. Conway mother Penguin Tasmania
2610	"	Bridger, Claude	22	Bapt.	22/6/15	Mrs. H. Bridger Mother Gladstone Avenue Forest Depot Mt. Roland Tas.
2895	"	Morley, Wallace wounded Zonnebeke	20	C. of E.	2/7/15	Mrs. H. Morley father Thomson St. Latrobe Tas.

Roll continued over leaf.

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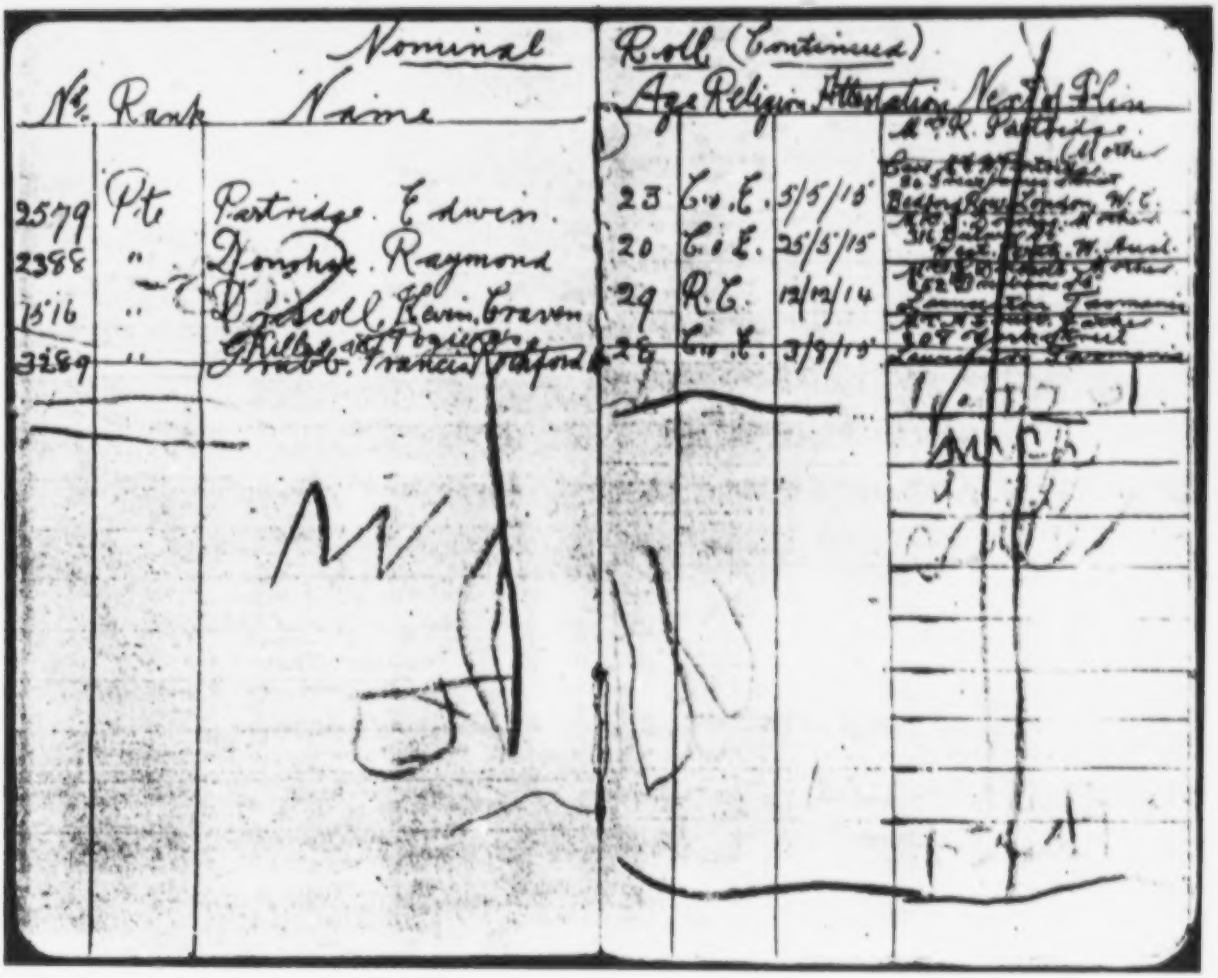
Taken from a small pocket book
Note: next of kin red lines through the company lists

NOMINAL ROLL — July 14th 1916

No.	Rank	Name	Age	Religion	Date of Attestation	Next of kin
	Lieut.	Thirkell wounded Pozieres				
17	Sergt.	Mitchell, Bernard Wilson	23	Meth.	19.8.1914	J.H. Mitchell, father 120 Elizabeth Street Launceston, Tas.
970	Corpl.	Stephens, William wounded Pozieres	23	CofE	10.9.1914	Mr A.C. Stephens, father 31 Latrobe Street Brunswick, Victoria.
522	L/Cpl.	Holtum, Henry Edward	21	RC	1.9.1914	Mrs R. Holtum, mother 6 Solly Street Zeehan, Tasmania
256	L/Cpl.	Muir, Archie Robert wounded Pozieres	27	CofE	26.8.1914	Mrs R. Muir, mother Rosevears, Tasmania
1543	L/Cpl.	Lee, Roy Stewart	19	Meth.	17.12.1914	Mrs A.W. Lee, mother Summerhill Road North Hobart, Tas.
1584	L/Cpl.	Scott, James Kenneth	27	CofE	8.1.1915	Mr. J. Scott, father Lansdowne Deloraine, Tasmania
1877	Pte	Chambers, John Arthur wounded Pozieres	20	Meth.	12.1.1915	Rev. W. Chambers, father Mission House Fiji
589	Pte.	Ellis, Harold Percy mortally wounded Pozieres	20	Cong.	7.9.1914	Mrs M.J. Ellis, mother McNichol Terrace Rosewater, S.Aust.
2029	Pte.	Holtum, Cyril Robert	26	RC	9.2.1915	Mrs C.R. Holtum, wife 41 Hampton Road, Battery Point Hobart, Tasmania
2670	Pte.	Briggs, Roy Frederick	19	Meth.	24.5.1915	Mr. F.I. Briggs, father Longford, Tasmania
2671	Pte.	Conway, William John killed Pozieres	27	CofE	10.6.1915	Mrs. R.J. Conway, wife Penguin, Tasmania
2610	Pte.	Bridger, Claude	22	Bapt.	22.6.1915	Mr. H. Bridger, father Gladstone Avenue South Perth, W.Aust.
2895	Pte.	Morley, Wallace slightly wounded Pozieres	20	CofE	2.7.1915	Mr R. Morley, father 21 Cameron Street Launceston, Tas.

Roll continued overleaf



Nominal Roll (Continued)

No.	Rank	Name	Age	Religion	Attestation	Next of Kin
2579	Pte	Partridge. Edwin.	23	C. of E.	5/5/15	Mrs. E. Partridge. (Mother) [illegible]
2388	"	Donohue. Raymond	20	C. of E.	25/5/15	[illegible]
1516	"	Driscoll. Wm. Craven	29	R.C.	12/12/14	[illegible]
3289	"	Hibbert. Francis Watford	26	C. of E.	3/8/15	[illegible]

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2579	Pte.	Partridge, Edwin	23	CofE	5.5.1915	Mrs R. Partridge, mother care Mr W. Partridge 30 Great James Street Bedford Row London, W.C.
2388	Pte.	Donohoe, Raymond	20	CofE	25.5.1915	Mrs E. Donohoe, mother 316 Bulmer Street West Perth, W. Aust.
1516	Pte.	Driscoll, Kevin Craven	29	RC	12.12.1914	Mrs J. Driscoll, mother 252 Breabane Street Launceston, Tasmania
3289	Pte.	Grubb, Francis Rothford killed at Pozieres	28	CofE	3.8.1915	Mr A. Grubb, father 208 York Street Launceston, Tasmania

1

Matthew Brown in his soldier's uniform – World War I: 1914. The stripe on his sleeve shows that he was a lance-corporal. This photo was taken before he was posted overseas when he was ?2 years of age.

He was a keen amateur photographer and took many photographs of Devonport and the surrounding area between 1906 and 1914. During World War I, he was with the Anzacs at Gallipoli and although cameras were forbidden there, he took the photos enclosed in this file.

1. *What is Matthew Brown holding?*
2. *What do you notice about the trouser legs?*
3. *Why do you think Matthew had the photograph taken?*
4. *What kind of things might he be feeling at the time this photograph was taken?*
5. *What would his parents and family be feeling at that time?*
6. *Act out the scene when Matthew returns home to tell his parents that he's just enlisted.*

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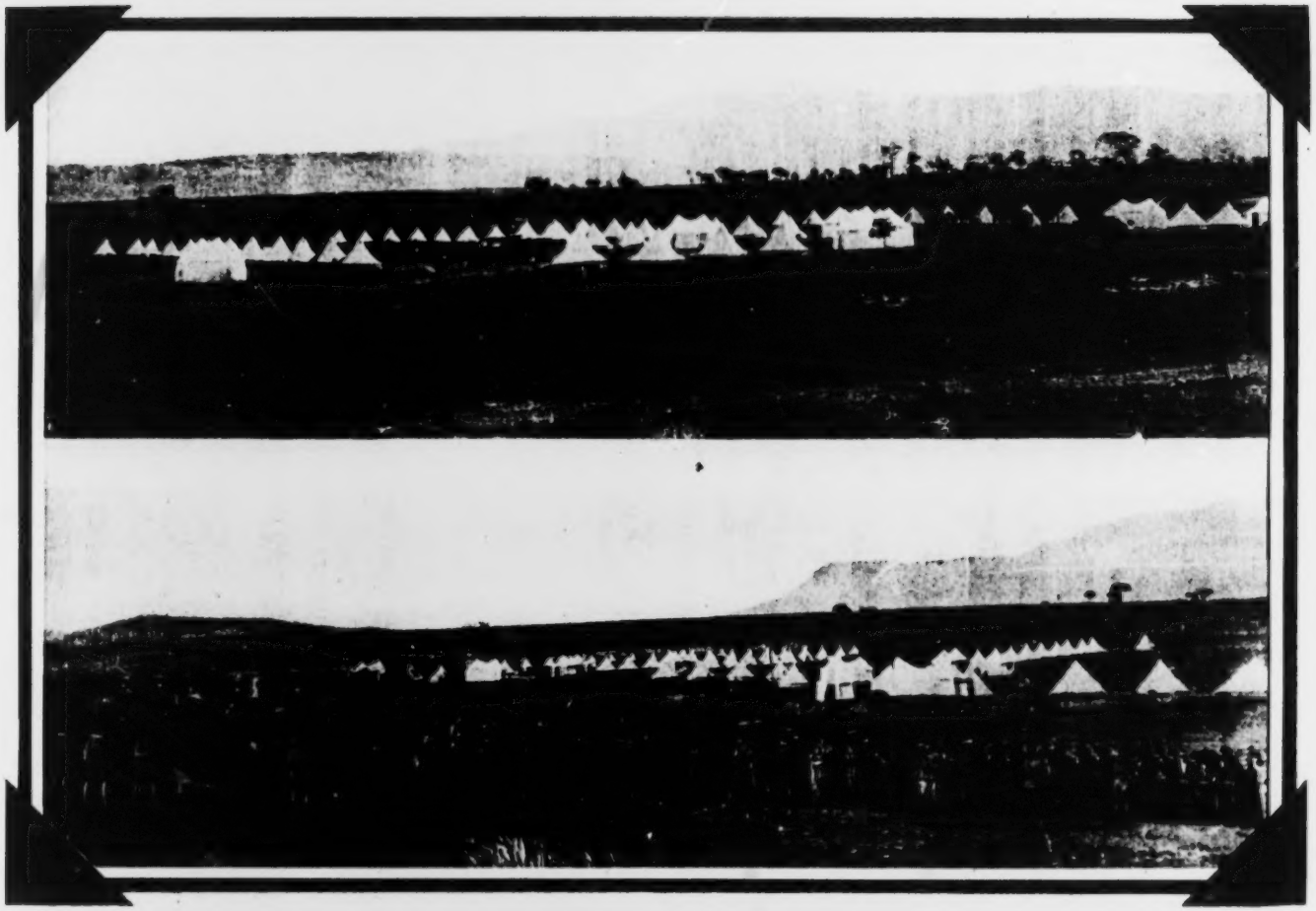
Brighton Camp, 1914.

Points of interest:
Slouch hats.
Cooking facilities.

3



An army camp, 1914-15.

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1. *What is happening here? What are the men holding?*
2. *What clues tell you that this photograph was taken at the very beginning of the war?*

4

Marching off to war, 1915.

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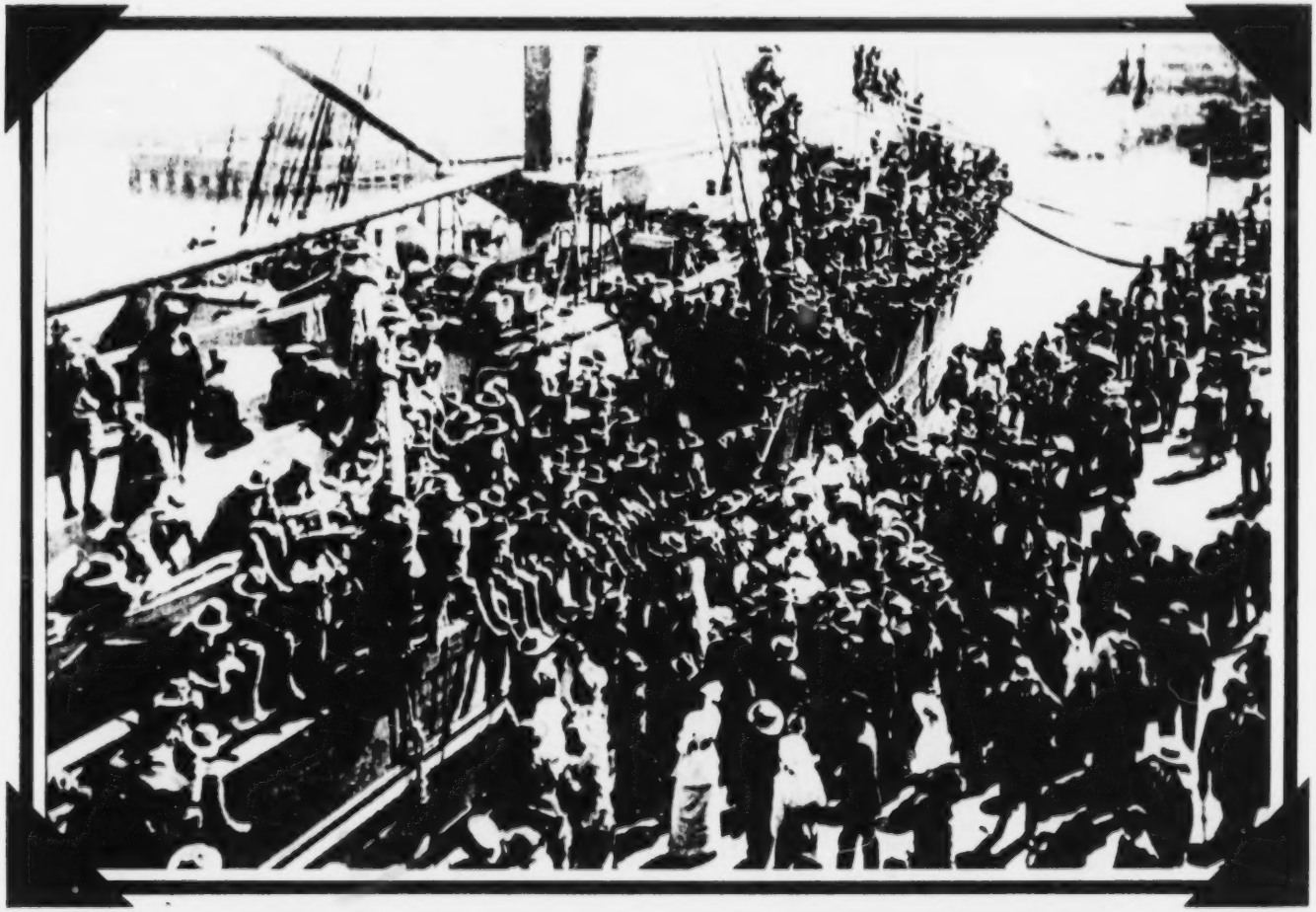
1. *Who have all the people come to see?*
2. *Who are the men on the horses at the front?*
3. *Why is there a band?*
4. *What would it have been like to be there? What sounds would you have heard? Where would you stand to get a good view?*
5. *Listen to 'The Band Played Waltzing Matilda'.*

5



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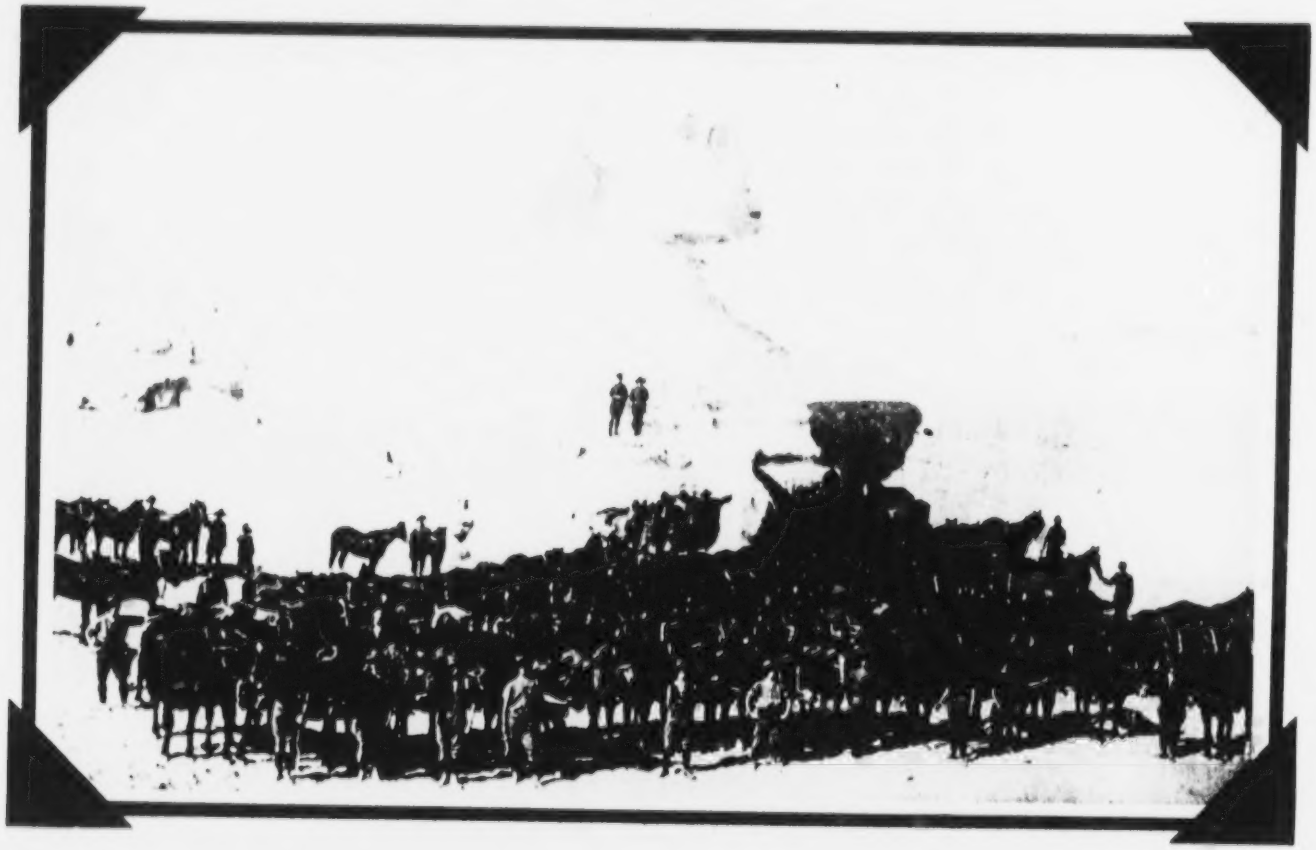
About to sail!

1. *Who are on the boat?*
2. *Who are left ashore?*
3. *Describe the scene for a newspaper. What would have been the feelings of those shown in the photograph: sons leaving mothers and fathers, brothers leaving sisters, and young men leaving sweethearts.*
4. *How did the people who stayed behind help with the war?*

6



Tasmanians in Egypt, 1915.

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Points of interest:
The Sphinx and pyramids.
The reliance on horses.

7

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Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, 1915.
This photo shows the living quarters of the Anzacs. Holes were dug into the sides of the hills and tarpaulins angled across them for shelter and privacy. There was no water, so it had to be brought in from the ships offshore. Clothes and bodies would have been washed in the sea. The area was very hot in summer and freezing in winter.

8

Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, 1915.
Australian and New Zealand soldiers encamped on a hillside of Gallipoli. Conditions were difficult, with little protection from the sun or the enemy, but the soldiers made the best of their situation. Many became ill because of poor toilet facilities.

1. *How many men can you see?*
2. *What kind of ground are they camped on?*
3. *Why have they dug in? Why not find level ground?*
4. *What would be some of the problems the soldiers faced living in these conditions?*

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9

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Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, 1915.
Conditions in the trenches were poor – hot, dry and dangerous. Soldiers did not have steel helmets for protection. (They were first used in France in 1916.)

1. *Look at the soldier on the left. What is he wearing around his tunic?*
2. *Why has he turned his cap around?*
3. *What do you think the other soldier is doing?*

10

1915. Soldiers in the trenches at Anzac Cove, Gallipoli. The rifle butts and muzzles were bound with cloth to stop sand damaging the rifles.

1. *What parts of their uniform have been discarded?*
2. *How can you tell it's warm?*
3. *How can you tell there's a 'lull' in the fighting?*
4. *Why did the soldiers dig trenches?*

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11

Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, 1915.
Heat and dust added to the discomforts of living in a trench. A water bottle hangs from a rifle. The newspaper would be out of date, but still worth reading.

1. *What amusements or ways of passing the time, did the soldiers possess?*
2. *Why would the water bottle be necessary?*
3. *Imagine you're one of the soldiers in the photograph. Write a letter home explaining what things you'd like to make things more bearable in the trenches. Remember to list only those things that would have been available in those days.*

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12

Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, 1915.
Soldiers on the hillsides cooked their food in and ate from, pannikins. A cloth over the neck of one soldier shades him from the hot sun.
There was very little wood for the soldiers to use for their fires.

1. *What are the soldiers using for cooking?*
2. *Why aren't they using plates?*
3. *Why is one of the soldiers leaning back into the side of the trench?*
4. *What is he thinking? Write a brief description of his life. Use your imagination: What is his name? Where's he from? Why did he enlist? Has he a family? What kind of job did he have?*

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Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, 1915.
Matthew Brown outside his camp reading a welcome letter from home. His slouch hat is turned down. An identity disk (dog tag) hangs around his neck. He is wearing a flannel shirt and braces hold up his trousers. The long khaki webbing wrapped around his legs are called putties. Putties kept his trouser legs clean in muddy country (putties were easier to wash than trousers). They also stopped insects and leeches (in wet areas) from attacking his legs and kept dirt out of his boots.

1. *Look at photograph No. 1 – in what ways has Matthew Brown changed his appearance?*
2. *Do you think he would be feeling the same now as he did in the first photograph?*
3. *Why was the mail from home important to soldiers like Matthew?*

14

Anzac, Gallipoli, 1915.
A tasty plum pudding being placed on a 'tray' to be eaten for dinner. Living conditions were primitive.

1. *What is the soldier in the centre wearing around his throat?*
2. *Why were they worn?*
3. *If you were without your favourite meals for a while, which would you miss most?*
4. *What clues are there to us about the mood they're in?*
5. *Write a letter 'home' to accompany this photograph.*

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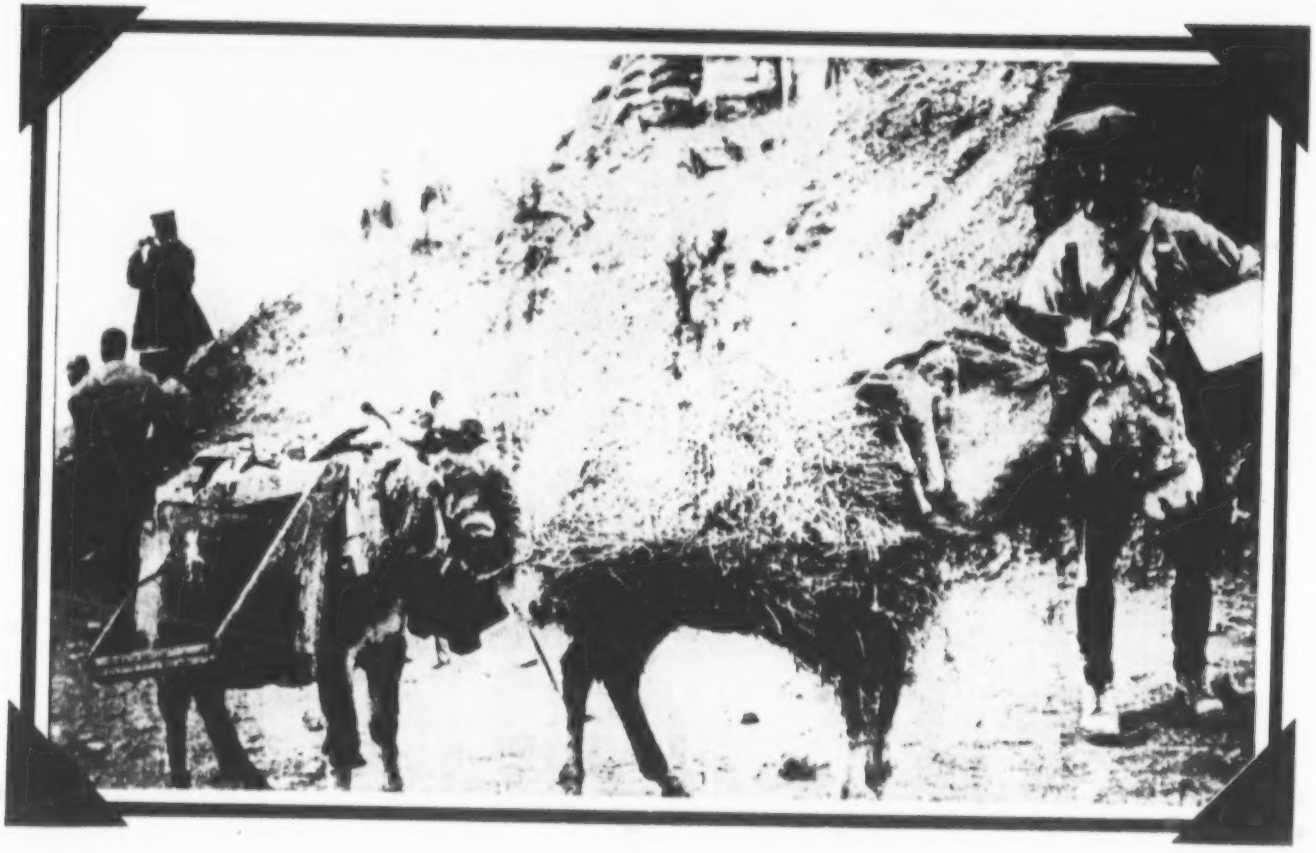
15



Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, 1915.
Donkeys were used for transporting goods at Gallipoli. They carried food, water and ammunition. They were also used as 'ambulances' to transport wounded soldiers to the tent hospital on the beach.

1. *What is the donkey carrying?*
2. *What would it be used for?*
3. *Why use donkeys instead of horses?*

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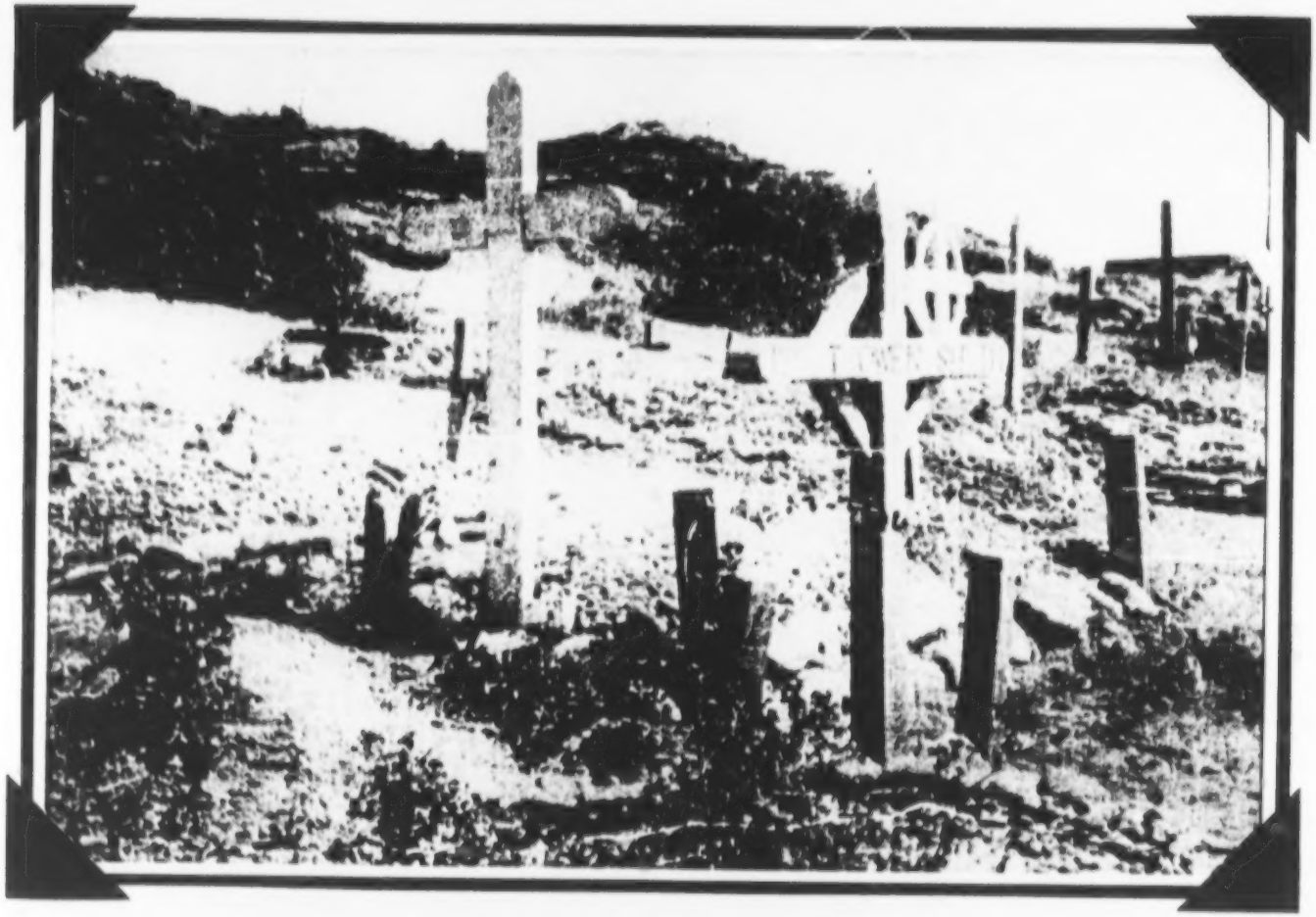
16



Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, 1915.
Soldiers who were killed in action were buried in the rocky, dry hillsides. Wooden crosses marked their graves.

1. *What materials have been used to make the crosses?*
2. *What might have been written on the cross?*
3. *Find out how the burial service was conducted?*
4. *How would you justify the death of these soldiers to their friends and family?*

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17

While on a hospital ship after being wounded, Matthew Brown, at left with his head bandaged, played cards with other wounded soldiers, 1916.

Imagine you are a nurse taking care of Matthew Brown.
Write notes about your patient describing his condition and treatment.
Set it out like a diary with at least 7 entries.

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Matthew Brown on leave after Gallipoli.

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19

Matthew Brown convalescing.

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Matthew Brown with two Welsh women (1916).
He was in Wales to recover from being severely wounded at Gallipoli.

1. *What is Matthew Brown wearing?*
2. *What clues tell you that he's no longer in a warm, dusty country?*
3. *Why do you suppose this photograph might have been taken?*
4. *How did Matthew meet the two women?*
5. *What might he have been feeling at this time?*
6. *Write an imaginary letter to one of them thanking them for their friendship while you were on leave. You'll have to invent details and names.*

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21

During leave in England, often to recover from war wounds, Australian and New Zealand soldiers enjoyed playing in the snow after the heat and dust of Gallipoli. (circa 1916)

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22

On leave, somewhere in France.

Points of interest:
Ladies' fashions.
Greatcoats.

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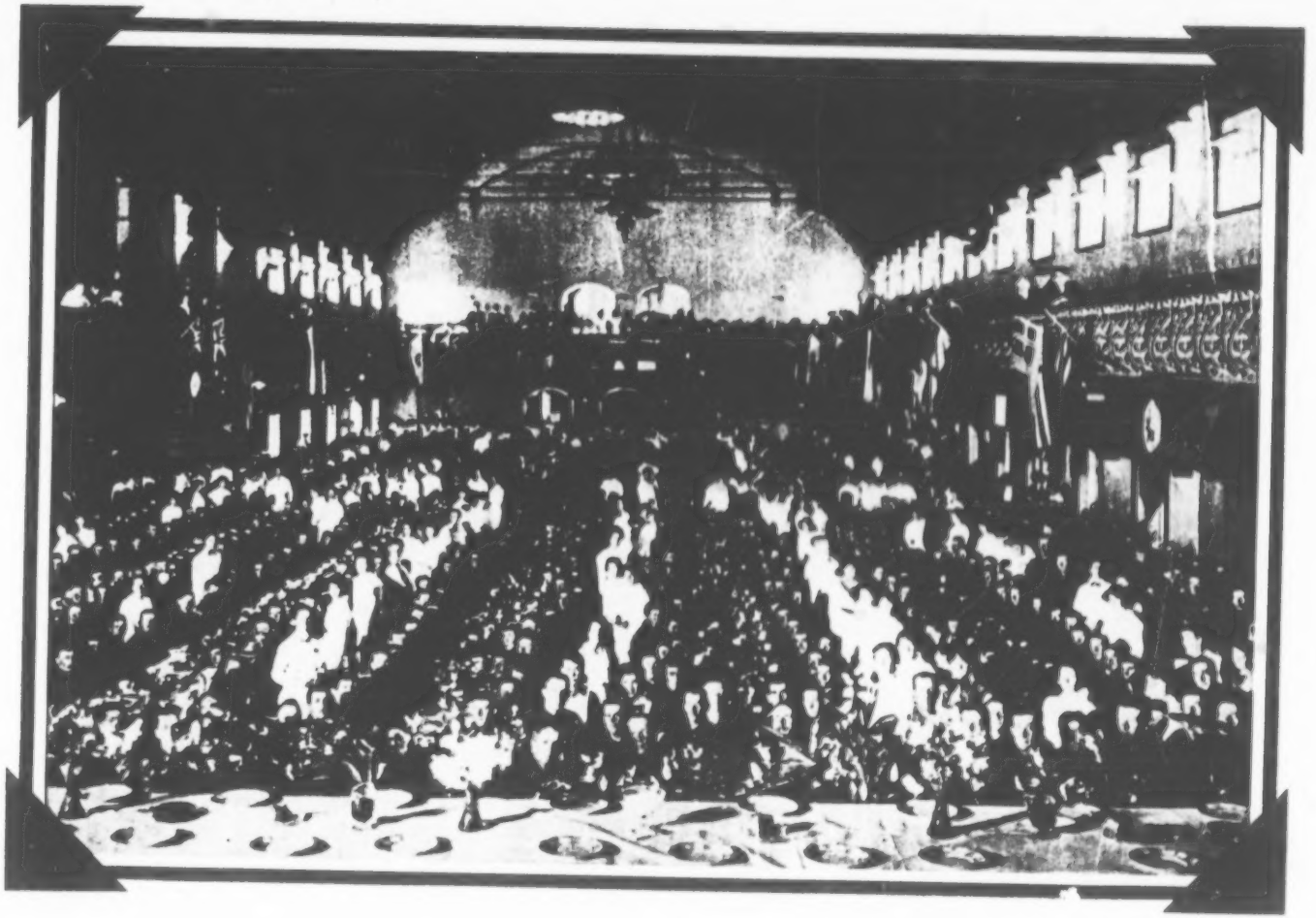
83

23



Celebrations!

1. *What is being celebrated here?*
2. *Look carefully at the flags around the hall. Why do you think there are so many different ones?*

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24

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25

Matthew Brown's Devonport

Matthew Brown's brothers and sisters playing in their backyard: Margery with her doll; Agnes, Bill and John skipping; Bessie turning the rope.

Find five things that tell you the photograph was taken a long time ago.

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26

Matthew Brown's Devonport

Points of interest :
Transport.
Fashions.

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27

Matthew Brown's Devonport: a warm day at the beach, circa 1900.

Find five things about this photograph that make it different from a beach scene of today.

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28

Matthew Brown's Devonport: Matthew Brown was a keen member of one of the local rowing clubs.

Points of interest:
Length of shorts
Caps.

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29

Matthew Brown's Devonport: the Victoria Hotel at the turn of the century.

1. *What clues tell you this photograph was taken a long time ago?*
2. *Why was the hotel named 'Victoria'?*

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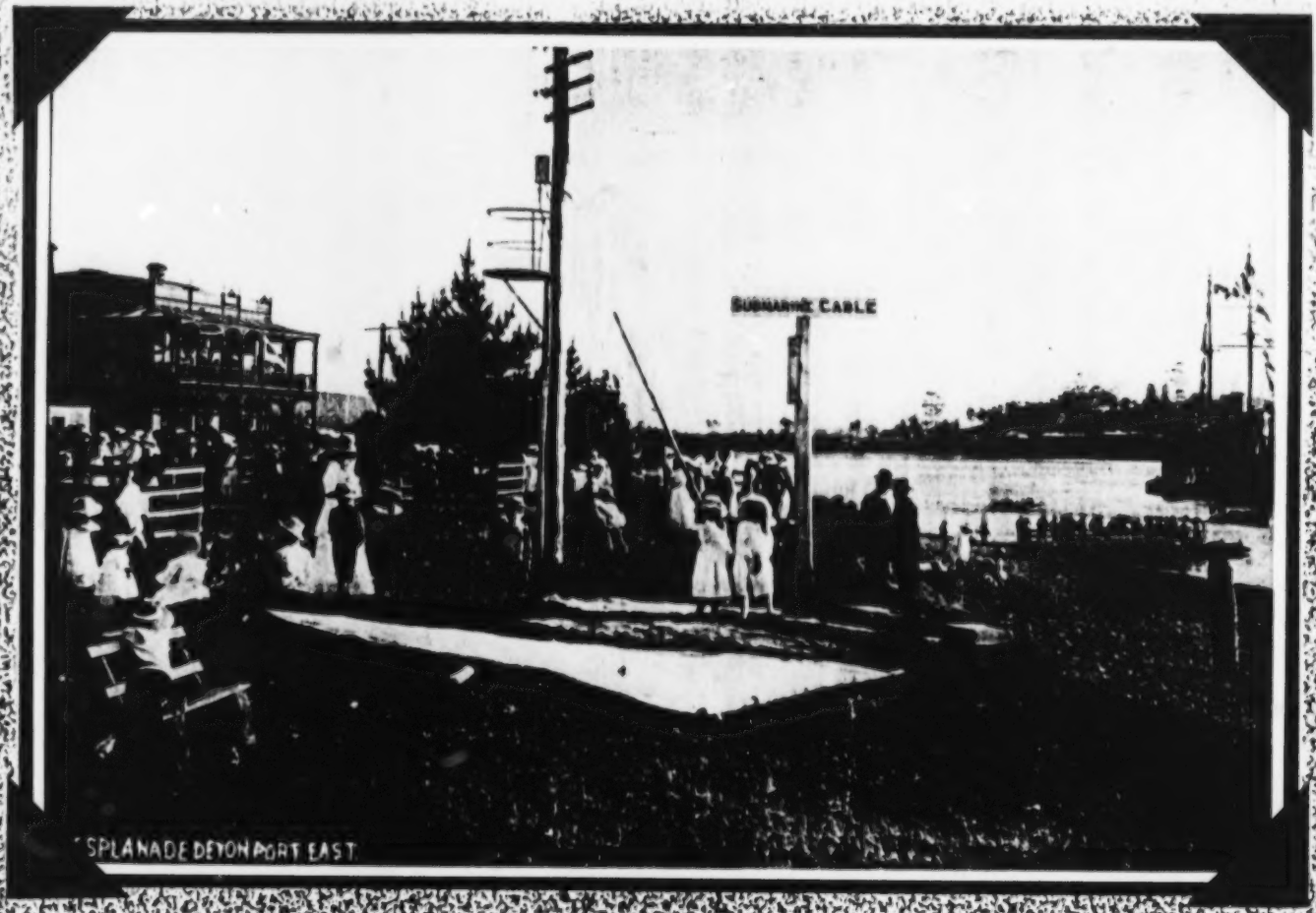
30



Matthew Brown's Devonport: getting together in the 'old days'.

Notice the umbrellas. Why were they used on a fine day?

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Gallipoli: Personal Records of War

Teacher's Guide

Education Department · Tasmania · Australia

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Acknowledgments

The idea for the Matthew Brown photoprints originated from Molly Greaves of East Devonport Primary School. The present materials are largely a result of her work. Thanks are also due to Chris Binks of Don College who gave advice and patient help. The prints are reproduced by permission of Matthew Brown's great niece, Mrs. B. Vanderval, now of Queensland.

The Archie Muir diary is published as a result of the efforts of Wyn Jones, the Tasmania Media Centre's consultant in the North West Region. The diary is reproduced with due acknowledgments to Archie Muir's family.

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Introduction

'It is the contemporary who alone can speak with authority of the motives which actually impelled his fellow countrymen.'
(C.E.W.Bean, Official History of Australia in the War of 1914 – 1918.)

Great events of history will always have more impact on our imagination when such events are approached through the personal records of those who took part. Matthew Brown's photographs and Archie Muir's diary extracts allow us to share, in part, personal experiences of particular times and events in the Great War.

The photographs provide a detailed and poignant view of life in the trenches at Gallipoli. Several show the men in moments of relaxation or posing for the folk 'back home'. The photographs evoke a sense of time and place and allow us to glimpse the human qualities and personalities of the people caught by the camera so long ago.

The photographs are mute, but the diary provides us with verbal descriptions of the Gallipoli landing and the battlefields of northern France. It is easy to sense both the excitement and the anxiety of the young diarist as he records his 'adventures'.

As teaching resources the photographs and diary extracts provide powerful stimuli and support for a variety of classroom activities. But students will also need to understand some of the circumstances surrounding the outbreak of war in 1914. This guide provides some background information for students: there is a brief description of how the Great War began and a summary of how the Anzacs came to be involved in the fighting at Gallipoli. A map of the Gallipoli peninsula is also provided. In addition there is an outline of the wartime debate over conscription and a brief description of the effect of the war on the role of women.

Permission is given for all or parts of the material in this package to be photocopied for use in the classroom.

Using the material

The documentary materials in this package provide an excellent means of kindling student interest in the past. By choosing particular photographs or diary extracts, teachers can lead students through a consideration of the possible motives and attitudes of those involved: students can be helped to 'relive' history.

Students can be encouraged to re-create past events imaginatively through writing and re-enactments. For example, students might choose to write as if they were Matthew Brown, Archie Muir or members of their families. They could also role play some of the events associated with the enlistment and departure of the two young soldiers.

A series of simple questions has been provided with each photoprint to help students 'think' themselves into the situation and to provide starting points for enquiry. The questions are arranged sequentially – starting with basic factual questions to clarify meaning, and moving through to questions that require students to make inferences and generalisations about the people involved.

There are several themes and concepts that students and teachers might like to explore.

Although much will depend on the interests and needs of the students, each of the following themes offers a worthwhile focus for further study:

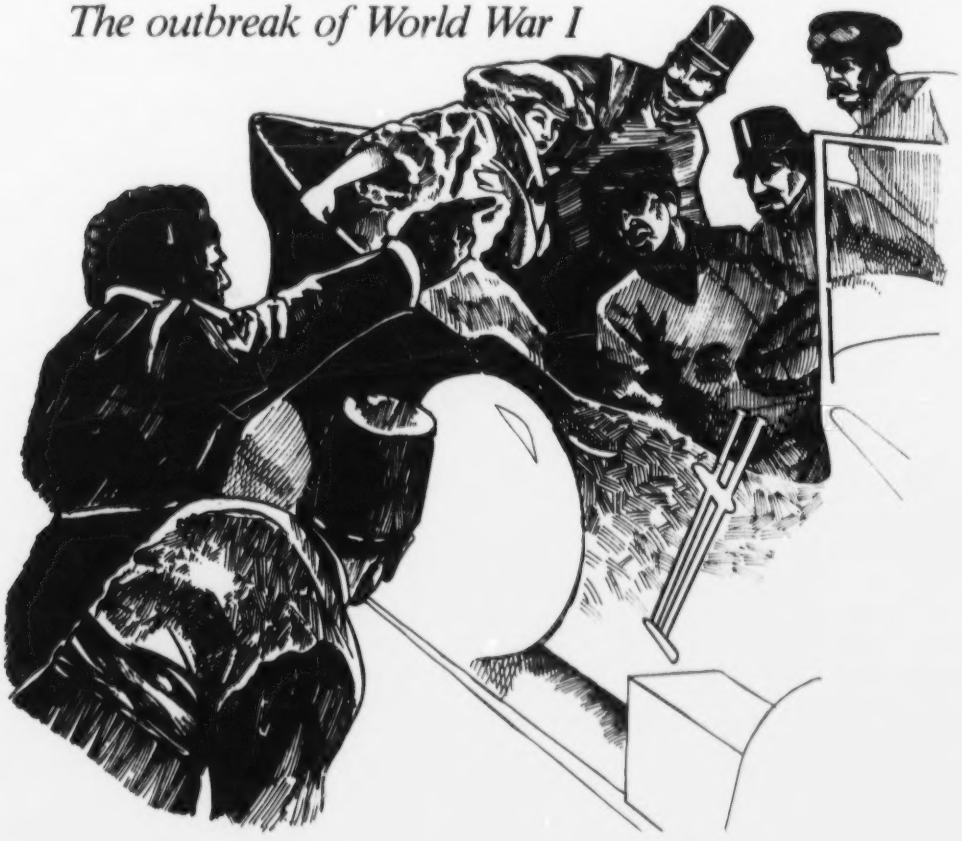
Patriotism: past and present
Anzac Day: what are we celebrating?
The effects of war on those at home
Mateship: friends in adversity?
War: glorious or deadly?
The role of women in times of war?

For more detailed ideas about possible classroom activities, teachers should refer to the materials listed under 'Further references' (page 15). Teachers will find there a variety of classroom activities suitable for primary and/or secondary students. Of particular value is the teacher's guide to the television mini-series, ANZACS. *The teacher's guide is published by Channel 9 and was distributed to schools in Tasmania in 1986. Additional copies may be obtained from the Curriculum Resources Section of the Education Department.*

Another resource of particular value to Tasmanian teachers, is The 40th Battalion Data Base. *The data base has been developed by the Elizabeth Computer Centre and contains selected information about the original enlistments in the 40th Battalion in the First World War. The resource is accompanied by a comprehensive teacher's guide which includes a variety of learning activities for students.*

Information for students

The outbreak of World War I



Nobody was really surprised when the First World War broke out in 1914. For fifty years the countries of Europe had been competing against each other for power and trade. Important countries like France, Britain and Germany were very proud. They had become fierce rivals. Most people expected them to go to war at some time or other.

By 1914 the countries of Europe were split into two rival camps. Britain and France led one side, and Germany and Austria-Hungary led the other. Each side was well armed and ready for a fight. In August 1914 the whole of Europe, and Australia, plunged into the First World War. What had happened to start the fighting?

The Murder of Arch-Duke Ferdinand

The trouble began when a young student named Gavrilo Princip murdered an important leader of the Austro-Hungarians. The young student was from a place in Europe called Serbia. He shot the Arch-Duke because the Austro-Hungarians were bullying his country, Serbia. The murder took place at Sarajevo in Serbia, on June 28, 1914.

The Austro-Hungarians were very angry that one of their leaders had been shot. They decided to punish the people of Serbia. On July 25, 1914, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia. When Serbia's friends quickly stepped in to support her, Austria's friends joined in to support Austria. France and Britain joined on Serbia's side. Germany joined

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the Austro-Hungarian side. In a matter of weeks almost all of Europe was at war.

Many people thought that the war would be over quickly, by Christmas 1914. But they were terribly wrong. The fighting grew more fierce and the war spread. Countries as far away as Australia and New Zealand became involved. Fighting took place at sea and on land in many places around the world. The war became known as the First World War.

The fighting finally ended four years later, on November 11, 1918. Hundreds of thousands of young soldiers had been killed or wounded. Many women and children had been killed too.

The First World War was the most destructive war ever. Many new weapons were used during the fighting. Poisonous gas, war planes, tanks, submarines and deadly new machine guns were all used for the first time.

The two sides

THE CENTRAL POWERS	*THE ALLIED AND ASSOCIATED POWERS*	
Germany	*Britain*	*Belgium*
Austria–Hungary	*France*	*Italy (1915)*
Turkey	*Serbia*	*Rumania (1916)*
Bulgaria	*Australia*	*U.S.A. (1917)*
	New Zealand	*China (1917)*
	Canada	*Montenegro*
	Russia	*Greece*
	Japan	*Portugal*

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Why were Australians fighting at Gallipoli?

Back in 1914 Australia was very much part of the British Empire. When Britain went to war against the Austro-Hungarians and the Germans, Australia sided with the 'mother country', Britain.

By 1915 the war in Europe was going badly. People had expected the war to end quickly, but the fighting continued. People began to wonder – how could the war be won? Some British politicians believed that the way to victory was by defeating Germany's allies such as Turkey. If Germany's allies could be beaten, perhaps Germany and Austria-Hungary would then give up the war.

The British government decided that it would try and defeat the Turks. The plan was to send battleships and soldiers to capture the Turkish capital, Istanbul. The problem was that to get to Istanbul the ships would have to pass through a very narrow stretch of sea called the Dardanelles. The Dardanelle Straits were overlooked by the Gallipoli Peninsula. Turkish soldiers held the Gallipoli Peninsula. Using their heavy guns they were able to stop the British ships from sailing towards Istanbul. The Turkish soldiers would have to be forced off the Gallipoli Peninsula.

On April 25th 1915, sixteen thousand Australian and New Zealand soldiers were landed at dawn as part of a surprise attack. The plan was to clear the Turkish soldiers from the Gallipoli Peninsula. The British Navy would then be able to sail safely to Istanbul. In the bloody few weeks that followed, more and more reinforcements were thrown into the battle and over 7,000 ANZACS were killed and nearly20,000 wounded.

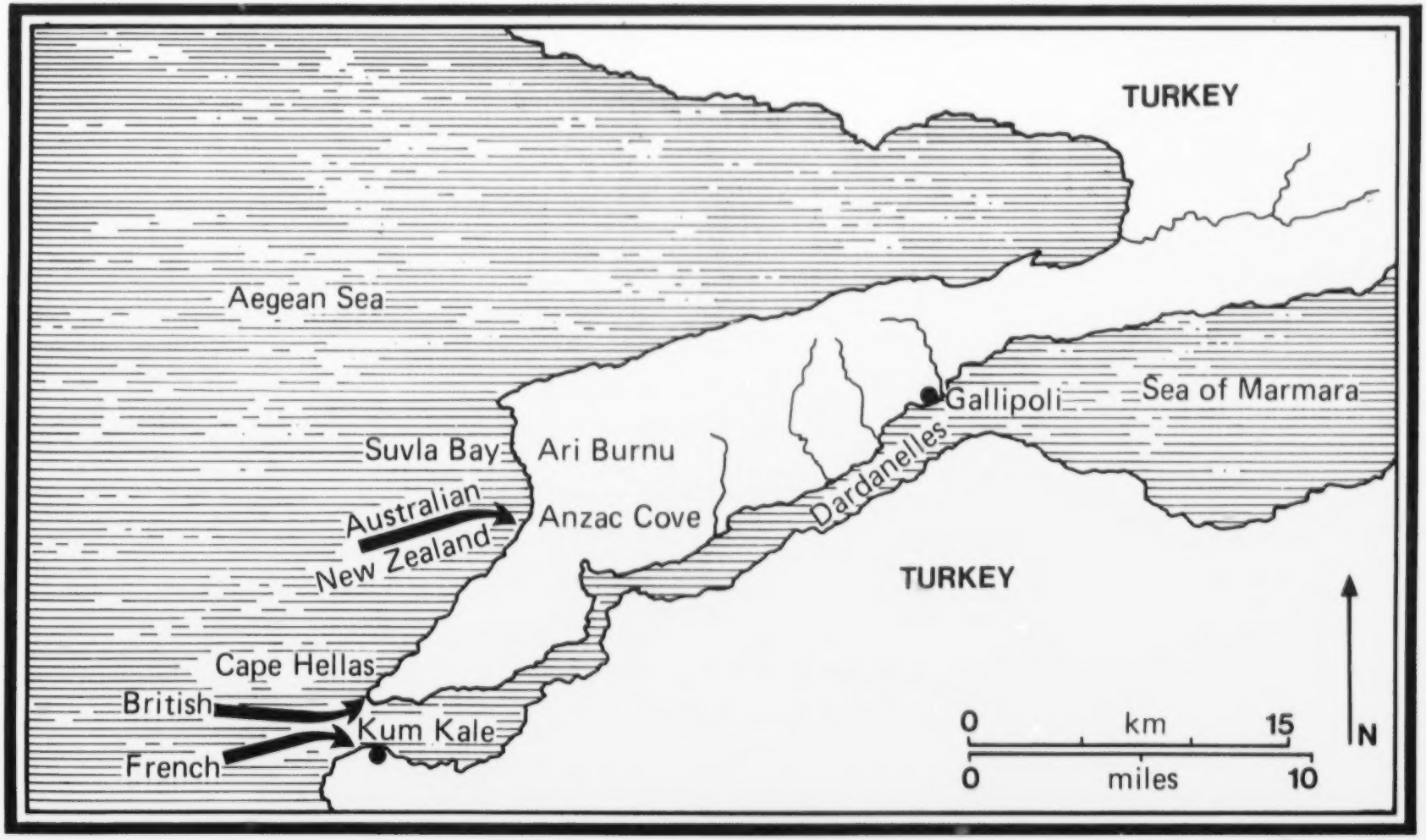
The landing

At 3.30 am on Sunday April 25th, 1915, the Australian landing force left their troop ships and climbed into rowing boats to be towed to shore. By the end of the day more than 2,000 of the 16,000 Australians and New Zealanders had been killed. They had reached less than a kilometre inland.

Each soldier carried what he needed: a blanket and waterproof sheet; meat, biscuits and water; and a rifle with about 200 cartridges. He also had an 'entrenching tool' which was a kind of pick and shovel made into one tool. Everyone had to dig hard to make trenches for shelter from the bullets. The trenches were the soldiers' homes for many months. Enemy trenches were often only metres away. When the order came to charge, the object was to capture the closest enemy trench.

Life in the trenches was very uncomfortable and unhealthy. Almost everyone became sick. Thousands of soldiers were killed and wounded by bullets and shells, but still the army hung on.

The Gallipoli Peninsula



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The leaving

After eight months it was obvious that the Allied troops would never capture Gallipoli. They would have to leave. At last, on December 7th, 1915, the British Government decided to evacuate the soldiers from Gallipoli. Troops began to leave at night so that the Turkish soldiers would not realise they were going.

By December 18th, 20,000 soldiers were left at Anzac Cove and Suvla Bay. Small teams of soldiers kept busy firing from the front trenches. They ran from gun to gun and used special triggers to fire a few guns at a time. The soldiers who were leaving wrapped sacks around their bayonets so that they would not shine in the moonlight.

By midnight on December 20th, only 1,500 soldiers were left to cover the 18 kilometres of front line. These soldiers became known as the 'Gallipoli diehards' because they were the last to leave. The very last boat left at ten past four in the morning. When the Turks attacked at dawn, they found their enemies' trenches empty.

The Australian survivors returned to Egypt. Some remained there, others, like Archie Muir and Matthew Brown, were sent to fight in France against the Germans.

Australian casualties at Gallipoli

5833 killed

1985 died of their wounds

19441 wounded

70 taken prisoner

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The Anzac legend

Ellis Ashmead Bartlett, the British war correspondent, has been described as the maker of the Anzac legend. His account was published in Australian newspapers on May 8th, 1915.

> *The courage displayed by these wounded Australians will never be forgotten. Hastily placed in trawlers, lighters and boats, they were towed to the ships, and in spite of their sufferings, cheered on reaching the ship from which they had set out in the morning.*
>
> *In fact, I have never seen anything like these wounded Australians in war before.*
>
> *Though many were shot to bits, without the hope of recovery, their cheers resounded throughout the night. You could see in the midst of the mass of suffering humanity, arms waving in greeting to the crews of the warships.*
>
> *They were happy because they knew that they had been tried for the first time and had not been found wanting. For fifteen mortal hours our men occupied the heights under an incessant shell fire, without the moral or material support of a single gun ashore, and they were subjected the whole time to the violent counter attacks of a brave enemy, skilfully led, with snipers deliberately picking off every officer who endeavoured to give a command or lead his men.*
>
> *There has been no finer feat in this war than this sudden landing in the dark and the storming of the heights . . . . . .*

Argus, *May 8th, 1915.*

'For Valour': The Victoria Cross

The Victoria Cross is the highest award for bravery in the face of the enemy. It was first awarded in 1856. Only 100 Australians have ever received it. Nine Anzacs won Victoria Crosses in the fighting at Gallipoli.

Anzac Day

On April 25th, 1916, Australian troops stationed in England marched to a special service at Westminister Abbey in London. On 25th April each year all Australians have a public holiday. In cities and towns all over the country there are Anzac marches and services to commemorate the soldiers who lost their lives in war.

How did the Anzacs get their name?

Sir William Birdwood was a British general who took command of the Australian and New Zealand soldiers in Egypt. He was the person who first thought of calling them 'Anzacs'. Here is his account of how it happened:

> *When I took over the command of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps in Egypt in 1914 I was asked to select a telegraphic code address for them, and I adopted the word 'ANZAC'. Later on, when we effected our landing at Gallipoli in April 1915, I was asked by general headquarters to suggest a name for the beach where we had made good our first precarious footing, and then asked that this might be recorded as Anzac Cove.*
>
> Mufti, *March 30th, 1968.*

The man with the donkey

One of the many heroes at Gallipoli was Private Jack Simpson. His full name was John Simpson Kirkpatrick.

Private Simpson was a stretcher bearer and his job was to carry wounded soldiers back to the beach for medical attention. It usually took two people to carry one wounded soldier.

Jack Simpson borrowed a donkey and trained it to carry two wounded men at a time. He named the donkey Murphy. Later he found another donkey which he named Duffy. He saved many lives and risked his own life each time he went out.

'The man with the donkey' became famous among the soldiers fighting in the campaign. Jack Simpson was shot dead by a sniper on May 19th. He was buried at Gallipoli.

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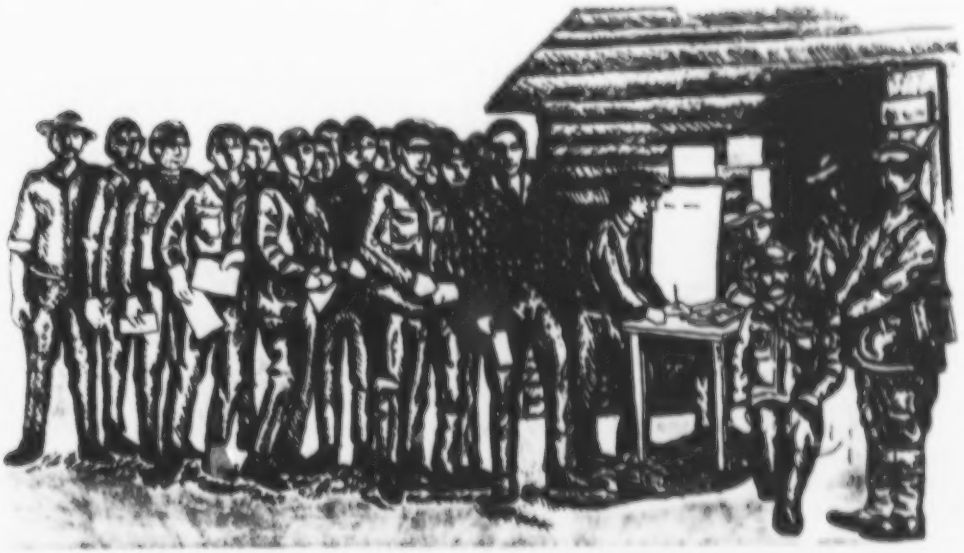
Volunteers or conscription?



Between August 1914 and November 1918, just over 400,000 Australian men joined the armed forces. This was out of a small population of about four and a half million. There was no law to make these men enlist. They were all volunteers.

At the beginning of the war there was a great deal of excitement. Young men were very enthusiastic about the war. Thousands rushed to enlist as soldiers. Some were not allowed to join because they failed the physical or fitness standards. Others were rejected because they were too young. Many young men lied about their age and said they were old enough to join up.

After 1915 the rush to enlist began to slow down. There weren't so many men queuing up to join. The government began to get worried. They were afraid they would not get enough soldiers. The government hoped to solve the problem by making it easier to enlist. Men who were rejected before were now accepted. For example, in 1914, the minimum height for a soldier was five feet six inches tall; by April 1917 the minimum height had been reduced to five feet.

But many people believed that Australia should send as many soldiers as possible. They believed Australia shouldn't rely just on volunteers. They wanted conscription laws to be passed to force able-bodied men to enlist. The governments of Britain, New Zealand and Canada already had conscription laws. Now, groups of people such as the Universal Service League, were calling for conscription in Australia. But not everybody in Australia agreed about this. A great number of people didn't want laws that would force men to enlist. Most of the trade unions and the Women's Peace Army argued that nobody should be forced to fight.

A fierce argument grew between those who wanted conscription and those who didn't. The Australian government decided to settle the argument by holding a referendum. Every Australian voter had the chance to vote for or against conscription. The referendum was held on October 28, 1916. More than half voted 'no' to conscription. As the war continued and still fewer men were volunteering, it was decided to hold another referendum. Voting took place on December 20th, 1917. Once again the majority voted 'no'.

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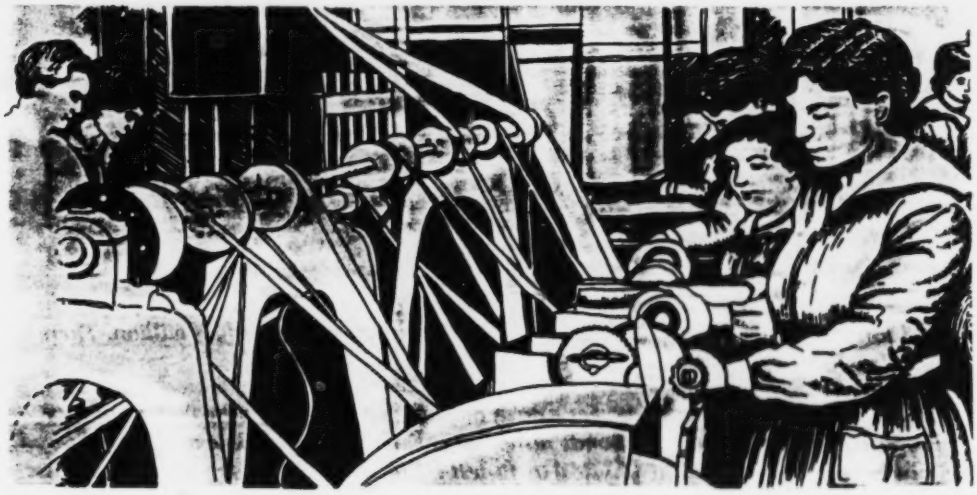
Support for the war

At the beginning of the war many Australian women offered to do war work. Some wanted to drive ambulances or be cooks in the battle zones. Some wanted to go into the firing lines. All these offers were refused. But the war did bring an important change. Many women began to work at jobs that only men had been working at before. Women were needed in the factories and on the farms to fill the gaps left by the men who went to war.



Doctors and nurses also rushed to offer their services. Male doctors and female nurses were accepted but female doctors were refused.

Members of the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS) were called up for service at the beginning of the war. More than 2000 Australian nurses served overseas during the war: 13 were killed. Many of these women served on hospital ships at Gallipoli. Later they went on to serve in France.

At home in Australia, women and children worked to raise a huge amount of money to help with the war. State school children raised over $1,600,000. This money was given to societies such as the Red Cross. It was used to buy blankets, warm clothes and other things to make life easier for the soldiers.

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Brief list of dates

YEAR	MONTH	DATE	EVENT
1914	*June*	*28*	*Arch-Duke Ferdinand of Austria assassinated by a Serbian student, Gavrilo Princip.*
	July	*25*	*Austria declared war on Serbia. Russia protested. France supported Russia.*
	August	*1*	*Germany declared war on Russia and France.*
		4	*Germany invaded Belgium. Britain declared war on Germany.*
		5	*Australia declared war on Germany. Austria declared war on Russia.*
		10	*Recruiting for the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) began.*
	October	*31*	*Turkey entered the war on Germany's side.*
	November	*1*	*The first troops left Australia on 26 ships. They were joined by 10 New Zealand ships.*
1915	*April*	*25*	*Anzacs and other allied troops landed on Gallipoli.*
	December	*20*	*Last troops evacuated from Suvla Bay and Anzac Cove.*
1916	*March*	*20*	*1st ANZAC Corps began landing in France.*
	July	*1*	*First battle on the Somme began.*
		23	*Battle of Pozieres began.*
1917	*June*	*25*	*American troops began to land in France.*
1918	*October*	*30*	*Armistice signed by Turkey.*
	November	*11*	*Armistice with Germany signed.*

Further references

Ideas for student research can be found in the following books which are aimed at the secondary school market:

THE HOME FRONT: 1914-1918
(Inquiring into Australian History series)

Jan Bassett

Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1983. ISBN 0-19-554469-2 $8.50

Each chapter begins with focus questions, uses original documents and concludes with individual and group activities. An excellent book which could also be useful for upper primary teachers seeking additional material.

THE FRACTURED SOCIETY: AUSTRALIA DURING THE GREAT WAR

Frank Farrell

N. Ryde, NSW: CCH Australia, 1985

Part of the Australia in Documents *series, this large format book links together a range of original source material. Questions follow each chapter.*

Gallipoli and the Anzacs: additional references

Students will need some background information on the Gallipoli campaign and Australia's involvement in the war. Material dealing with the Anzacs at Gallipoli is usually shelved in libraries at Dewey numbers 940.3 and 940.4. It is also worth checking books dealing with early twentieth century Australian history (Dewey number 994.04).

THE ANZACS AT GALLIPOLI
(Australian Factfinders series)

Michael Dugan

Macmillan (Australia), South Melbourne, 1979. ISBN 0-330-29980-9 $3.75

A concise account suitable for upper primary and secondary students.

GALLIPOLI
(Australians at War series)

Susan McKernan

Hodder and Stoughton, Lane Cove, NSW, 1984. ISBN 0-340-35830-0 $2.95

Like the previous reference, this is a good account suitable for upper primary and secondary students.

APRIL 25, 1915: THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND CAMPAIGN ON GALLIPOLI IN 1915
(A Heritage Kit)

Southdown Press, Melbourne.

This is a useful folder of documents, maps, etc that is now out of print. However, it can be found in several school libraries.

THE ANZACS

Patsy Adam-Smith

Nelson, Melbourne, 1978. ISBN 0-170-006731-9 $19.95

This is a very informative book, but it may be unsuitable for independent student use: its text is continuous and is not broken up into easily digested 'chunks'.

GALLIPOLI: DAMN THE DARDANELLES

John Laffin

Sun Papermac, Melbourne, 1985. ISBN 0-7251-0464-3 $12.95

It is also helpful to remember that the ABC broadcast a special radio program for primary schools on Anzac Day. Further information is available from the ABC Education Liaison Officers.

Personal narratives

Several first-person accounts of World War I have been published.

GALLIPOLI CORRESPONDENT: THE FRONTLINE DIARY OF C.E.W. BEAN

Kevin Fewster

Allen and Unwin, North Sydney, 1983.
ISBN 0-86861-472-3 $12.95

This diary from the official war historian is more suited to secondary rather than primary readers.

SIX BOB A DAY TOURIST

Janet Morice

Penguin, Ringwood, Victoria, 1985.
ISBN 0-14-006949-6 $7.95

This book provides an unusual perspective. In 1914 Thomas Gardner enlisted and his sister Mabel joined the peace movement. This book weaves together Thomas' letters and Mabel's diary. As the war proceeded Thomas' views changed. An excellent title for secondary schools.

A FORTUNATE LIFE

A.B. Facey

Penguin, Ringwood, Victoria, 1981.
ISBN 0-14-008167-4

In chapters 49-57, Bert Facey describes his introduction to army life and his progress as a soldier in Egypt and Gallipoli. Facey's autobiography is now a Channel Nine mini-series.

HARNEY'S WAR

(ABC cassette 0200603)

In 1958 a highly acclaimed radio documentary related an Australian soldier's experience after enlisting for service in World War I. At an army camp in Brisbane, Bill Harney had his first brush with military authority – an institution which he would later regard as pompous and dangerous. The ABC bookshop now has a cassette version of that original program.

BILL HARNEY'S WAR

Currey O'Neil, South Yarra, Victoria, 1983.

The narrative has also been published as a large format book accessible to upper primary and secondary students. Now out of print, it is available from the State Library and the Curriculum Resources Centre at the University of Tasmania's Centre for Education.

THE STORY OF GALLIPOLI: BY SIX WHO CAME BACK

(ABC cassette 0201359) $8.95

This contains a collection of first-hand accounts of the Gallipoli campaign. The men describe the landings, battles, life in the trenches, and the evacuation. They give their views on fear, death, defeat and the enemy.

Poems, paintings and films on World War I

The experience of Australian soldiers in the Gallipoli campaign has inspired poems, plays, paintings, songs, novels and films.

OTHER BANNERS: AN ANTHOLOGY OF AUSTRALIAN LITERATURE OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Australian Government Publication Service, Canberra, 1971.

This book contains a collection of contemporary responses to the 1914-1918 war. It is now out of print but the State Reference Library of Tasmania has a copy (Dewey number 820.9A). The anthology contains Leon Gellert's Anzac Cove. *Gellert was a school teacher who enlisted at the beginning of the war.*

Anzac Cove
There's a lonely stretch of hillocks:
There's a beach asleep and drear:

There's a battered broken fort beside the sea.
There are sunken trampled graves:
And a little rotting pier:
And winding paths that wind unceasingly.

There's a torn and silent valley:
There's a tiny rivulet
With some blood upon the stones beside its mouth:
There are lines of buried bones:
There's an unpaid waiting debt:
There's a gentle sobbing in the South.

SHADOWS FROM WIRE: POEMS AND PHOTOGRAPHS FROM AUSTRALIANS IN THE GREAT WAR

Geoff Page (ed.)

Penguin, Ringwood, Victoria, 1983.
ISBN 0-14-0423206 $7.95

This is a more recent anthology, though the title is a little misleading: the photographs are contemporary to World War I but the poems are not. The selection is recommended for secondary schools and ranges from Hal Porter (b. 1911) to Kevin Hart (b. 1954).

CLUBBING AT THE GUNFIRE: 101 AUSTRALIAN WAR POEMS

P. Pierce and C. Wallace-Crabbe (eds)

Melbourne University Press, Victoria, 1984. ISBN 0-522-84289-5

This comprehensive anthology of Australian war poetry includes poems that date from World War I as well as more recent poems written in response to later conflicts.

THE ANZAC BOOK: WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED IN GALLIPOLI BY THE MEN OF ANZAC

Sun Books, Melbourne, 1975.

First published in 1916, this contains a broad collection of stories, jokes, photographs, poems, sketches and paintings. The reproduction is out of print but is available in several libraries.

A BROKEN SONG: THE VOICE OF AUSTRALIANS AT WAR

(ABC cassette 0206229)

The first in this set of three cassettes contains poetry and soldiers' songs with a linking commentary covering the period up to the homecoming in 1919.

NOLAN'S GALLIPOLI

Gavin Fry (ed.)

Rigby, Adelaide, 1983.
ISBN 0-7270-1785-3

This large format book reproduces a representative selection from the two hundred and fifty two Sidney Nolan paintings which currently comprise the series.

GALLIPOLI

Directed by Peter Weir
Roadshow, 1981.

This film is available on video.

THE ANZACS

A Channel Nine mini-series shown in Tasmania in 1986.

An excellent study guide has been distributed to all secondary schools in Tasmania. Additional copies are available from the Resource Implementation Unit, Hobart. The 'book of the film' by G. McLeod is published by Methuen. (ISBN 0-454-00947-X $5.95)

Women and the War

Teachers may find the following titles useful for exploring women's involvement in the war and women's attitudes towards war. The first three references are probably too difficult for students to use on their own. However, the chapter entitled 'The Role of Women', in Jan Bassett's The Home Front 1914-1918, *is a very readable reference for students.*

THE ANZACS

Patsy Adam-Smith

Nelson, Melbourne, 1978. ISBN 0-170-006731-9 $19.95

Draws extensively on the diary of Sister Alice Kitchen who nursed the wounded at Gallipoli.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN AT WAR

Patsy Adam-Smith
Nelson, Melbourne, 1984. ISBN 0-17-006408-5

Covers the First and Second World Wars.

THE AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE AND THE GREAT WAR

Michael McKernan
Collins, Sydney, 1984.

Chapter 4: 'To wait and weep: Australian women at war'

THE HOME FRONT: 1914–1918

Jan Bassett
Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1983.

This reference contains a very good chapter entitled 'The Role of Women', which most secondary students will be able to understand. The reference contains concise, readable information as well as student activities.

Other material dealing with Australia's involvement in World War I

CROSSES: AUSTRALIA'S WAR EXPERIENCE

Focal, Australia, 1985.

This video includes archival footage and interviews with veterans. The program is available for borrowing from the Media Library, V688. The video is in sections. Sections 1-4 deal with the causes of World War I, Gallipoli and its aftermath. Sections 5-6 deal with the French campaigns. (Running time: 55 minutes.)

AN AUSTRALIAN IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Bill Gammage

Cambridge University Press, 1976. $6.25

This book presents a chronological approach as seen through the eyes of an imaginary 'composite soldier'.

AUSTRALIA AT WAR 1914–1918

P.F. Gilbert (compiler)

Jacaranda, Milton, Queensland, 1976. ISBN 0-7016-071-6 $8.95

This useful collection of primary sources is probably in most school libraries.

AUSTRALIA AND WORLD WAR I

Ann Howard

Bay Books, Sydney, 1983. ISBN 0-85835-643-0 $4.95

This reference contains forty-two pages of text-book coverage.

AUSTRALIA WILL BE THERE: GROWING UP IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Sue Johnston

Kangaroo Press, Kenthurst, NSW, 1984. ISBN 0-86417-0009 $5.95

Growing up in Melbourne between 1910 and 1920 meant that most things were influenced by World War I. This book presents one woman's childhood memories ...'Looking at the map it was easy to see just how many countries belonged to the British Empire. They were the ones in bright red ...'

WHAT PRICE VALOUR?

Film Australia, 1985.

This 48 minute video for older students tells the story of Edgar Thomas Towner VC, whose medal was recently auctioned for $64,000. Towner's medal was won in France. The video is available from the Media Library.

A DIVIDED SOCIETY: TASMANIA DURING WORLD WAR I

Marilyn Lake

Melbourne University Press, Carlton, Victoria, 1975.

Out of print, but available from the library at the Southern Teachers Centre. Suitable as an upper secondary or teacher reference.